

LOK SABHA DEBATES

(English Version)

Seventh Session
(Eighth Lok Sabha)



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LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Tuesday, November 11, 1986/Kartika 20,
1908 (Saka)

*The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of
the Clock.*

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[Translation]

Working of Telephone System in Rural Areas

*104. SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER
JAIN† :

SHRI MULLAPPALLY
RAMACHANDRAN :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICA-
TIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the telephone system in most of the places in the country, particularly in rural areas, remains out of order due to old equipment and technical faults in telephone exchanges and dereliction of duty by officers and employees;

(b) if so, whether the Department proposes to chalk out any programme to bring about substantial improvement in the system; and

(c) if so, the outlines thereof and the States likely to be covered thereunder ?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS

(SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) (i) No, Sir. It is not correct to say that most of the systems remain out of order. However, the service rendered by a few of the systems is not very satisfactory due to old and worn out exchange equipment.

(ii) In rural areas the telephone is affected adversely due to frequent and prolonged power failures.

(b) and (c). Steps taken to improve the telephone services are given in the statement below. All States are covered in the above programme.

Statement

The following steps have been taken to improve the telephone service.

1. Introduction progressively of electronic telephone exchanges to avoid problems inherent with electromagnetic switching equipment used hitherto.
2. Replacement of life expired equipment.
3. Special testing of exchange equipment particularly inter-exchange junctions is being undertaken to improve inter-exchange working.
4. Working of air-conditioning plants in various exchanges is being regularly monitored to ensure proper working.
5. Laying of new junction, primary and secondary cables in ducts to protect them from external damages.
6. Pressurisation of primary, secondary and junction cables to minimise cable break-down faults.

7. Use of jelly filled cables in the distribution network to prevent entry of water in the cables to avoid faults.
8. Cable trenches are being flooded before being closed so as to detect any damage during trenching or laying of the cables. The public is being asked to inform Telephone Department before they take up digging on 'dial before dig' service so as to keep liaison with other agencies who are engaged in digging.
9. Extensive patrolling of cable routes to detect any digging operations and to take precautionary measures to avoid damage to cables.
10. Provision of high grade junction circuits on Pulse Code Modulation, Coaxial and microwave media to provide better quality and more dependable service.
11. Rehabilitation of subscribers' fittings and the D.P. Boxes to minimise faults on the line.
12. Replacement of overhead wires by insulated drop wires to avoid faults due to kite strings, bird nests etc. which lead to contact or low insulation faults.
13. Use of improved telephone instruments.
14. Replacement of aluminium wires in the fittings at the subscribers premises by copper wires to avoid break faults.
15. Computerisation of cable records and fault repair service to bring down duration of faults.
16. Computerisation of Directory Assistance, (197) service and records.
17. Computerisation operator assisted (180) trunk services.
18. Monitoring of the automanual service and trunk service is being carried out so as to ensure prompt response on these services.
19. Public grievance cells have been opened at General Managers headquarters and Area Managers offices to provide single outlet attention to the subscribers.
20. Formation of Inter-utility coordination Boards to avoid damage to cables.
21. Engine alternator sets and higher size batteries are being provided to overcome the problem due to unstable power supplies.

[Translation]

SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is clear even from the reply just now given by the hon. Minister that telecommunication system in the country, especially in the rural areas, is not functioning properly. It has been clearly stated in the reply that this situation has arisen due to old and worn out exchange equipments. The strike by the Junior Engineers has also crippled this service. If you happen to dial a telephone, you get the reply from the operator that the line is out of order. We do not get even dial tone. The operators do not attend. Especially, when an information is sought on 180, 181, 199 and 183, they are not able to give information as they have only the old directory with them. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether he is taking steps to set these things right ?

[English]

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : Sir, it is a fact that in rural areas, the telecommunication system performance is not very satisfactory mainly because most of the exchanges which have been installed there are very out-dated. Now, in this Seventh Five Year Plan, we are trying to gradually change these exchanges into modern ones.

About the services which are rendered by the manual operators, it is a fact that there are complaints and recently, the Department has started a scheme by which these operators are being trained and wherever there is over-staffing, we are transferring them to those places where there is under-staffing. I hope that the situation will improve. But, as I said, gradually, we are trying to change to electronic type of exchanges and then efficiency in rural areas will be improved. This is now being planned in a phased manner. I hope, after the Seventh Plan, it will substantially improve.

[*Translation*]

SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, it has already been admitted that the situation in the rural areas is unsatisfactory, but telecommunication service in cities, especially Delhi, is quite deplorable. I would like to know what steps the hon. Minister is going to take to instal improved telephone equipment, electronic telephone exchange and air conditioning plants? What steps are being taken to provide S.T.D. facilities at the district level?

[*English*]

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : As I said, so far as the whole country is concerned, the total number of exchanges is about 11,600, and rural exchanges number 10,800. The capacity now throughout the country is about 37 lakhs; and out of these 37 lakhs, in the 7th five-year Plan our aim is to instal 768,000 electronic exchanges, and also to improve the cross-bar and strowger efficiency in rural areas, by providing generator sets as well as more powerful battery operations, so that in times of failure of power, they can work properly. In city areas, in various cities specially Bombay and Delhi, Mahanagar Telecommunication Corporations have taken charge from 1985. They are floating Bonds to raise funds and gradually, they will be introduce electronic digital exchanges. In Calcutta and other places also, we are taking steps to see that the situation improves. I request hon. Members to bear with us for some time more; and we shall improve the performance.

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER : He has asked that you, no doubt, have set the equipments right, but can you also set right the persons who man them?

[*English*]

SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMA-CHANDRAN : I am extremely glad to go through the lengthy answer given by the Minister. But whatever may be the policy today, people at large are not happy about the functioning of telecommunications in the country, especially in rural areas. This poor performance is due to several factors : They are out-dated as well as worn-out machinery, lack of infra-structure as also lack of sufficient number of employees. To a certain extent it is due to the indifferent and callous attitude taken by certain employees also.

In this connection, may I know from the hon. Minister whether any strict measures are to be introduced by the Ministry to ensure strict discipline as well as efficiency in the Department which is considered to be one of the largest public utility services in our country?

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : About the satisfactory working of the Telecommunication Department, I do agree that it deserves more improvement; and I am fully in agreement with the hon. Member. Kerala has got the best network in the country in telecommunications.

As regards employees, our policy is one of carrot and the cane. If they do good work, we pay them bonus. If they are at fault, we take action. I do not agree that all the staff are bad. Some of them are not working properly, and I can assure you that our attitude is to impart discipline strictly and we shall adhere to that. But those who are working well, should also be encouraged, and I will not say that all the workers are bad. Most of them are good. There are some sections which are not good. We shall try to mend them. I can assure you this much.

SHRI N. VENKATA RATNAM : It is everybody's experience that a lot of mis-

chief is going on in the metering system. Everybody is feeling it. I would like to ask the hon. Minister : is there any possibility of arranging for a meter for each telephone, so that it can be verified, because now we are getting bills. We do not know how it is metered. Whatever is billed for, we have to pay. That is the trouble under this scheme, which all the telephone-owners are facing. Is there any possibility of arranging a separate meter for each telephone just as in electricity? We will then verify and pay it.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : It is a suggestion for consideration.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHD. AYUB KHAN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, there are 27 districts and 38670 villages in Rajasthan. This area, with such a vast population, is quite backward from electricity point of view. I would, therefore, like to know the time by which telephone facility would be provided to these areas, especially Jhunjhunu and Sikar?

[English]

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : In Rajasthan, our line capacity is about 91,173, and there are demands for more 20,000 and odd lines. In another question of today I have already laid down the number of telephone exchanges which are going to be established in Rajasthan and they are quite a good number; and in comparison to other States, Rajasthan has got a lion's share and 40 more telephone exchanges are going to be established.

MR. SPEAKER : We have a lion's share in drought.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : You have got a special interest for Rajasthan.

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH : Are you satisfied?

MR. SPEAKER : Not yet.

[Translation]

SHRI PRATAP BHANU SHARMA : MR. Speaker, Sir, it is true that remarkable progress has been made in the field of telephones and modernisation and expansion of other telecommunication systems. Last year, the Telephone Department had requested the Finance Department that since they were in need of technicians and operators, they be allowed to make recruitment to these cadres, because if the equipment was replaced and electronic exchanges were installed and if the number of technicians and operating staff was not sufficient, the maintenance would suffer a lot. Therefore, I would like to know from the hon. Minister the extent of demand made for the recruitment of additional staff and the number of personnel for which permission has been given?

[English]

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : I do not have the information now with me. I shall inform the hon. member, but this much we can say that now there are bans on recruitment...

SHRI PRATAP BHANU SHARMA : I am getting this reply for the last four years.

MR. SPEAKER : Don't you appreciate his consistency?

SHRI PRATAP BHANU SHARMA : There is no question of appreciating it. Last time I got an assurance that permission will be obtained from the Ministry of Finance.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : We are trying. You help us.

[Translation]

SHRI V. TULSIRAM : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to bring one thing to the notice of the hon. Minister about telephones. Just two days back, I dialled a number and a female voice was heard from the other end who abused me. I had to suffer this indignity because of wrong number. I did not dial her telephone number deliberately. He is talking of effecting improvements in the telephone service in the rural areas but I am narrating

this incident which happened in Delhi and that too involving an M.P. ?

MR. SPEAKER : You are fortunate, Mr. Professor, to be abused by a lady.

SHRI V. TULSIRAM : He is talking of improvement; Prime Minister's letter has taken 25 days to reach Shantiniketan; is this the improvement he is talking about ?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI ARJUN SINGH) : If you have got this abuse only because of the telephone, I deeply apologise for it, but if it is due to some other reasons, I cannot help it.

Sharing of Gravity Data

*105. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN† :
PROF. RAMKRISHNA MORE† :

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Oil and Natural Gas Commission and Survey of India have been collecting and sharing sensitive gravity data relating to the Himalayas, having military importance, under an international collaboration;

(b) whether this kind of data is not published and is kept secret by other countries like USA and Soviet Union; and

(c) if so, the reasons for sharing such a sensitive Himalayan gravity data having potential military use ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : (a) to (c). A statement is given below.

Statement

(a) to (c). The ONGC have not shared gravity data relating to Himalayas under any international collaboration.

Such data was published by the Survey of India in 1956 when there were no restrictions. With the introduction of

restrictions in 1965, no further data were exchanged with outside agencies. Also no further collaborations were entered into by Survey of India in this field.

The practice adopted by USSR/USA in the matter is not known.

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the statement which has been laid on the Table of the house gives no specific reply to the question raised—It borders on vagueness. There are three agencies involved and the question names only two. Apart from the ONGC and the Survey of India, there is a third agency for collecting this information and that is the National Institute of Geo-physics; and it is not even mentioned in the reply. So, I would like to have first a categorical affirmation or negation from the hon. Minister whether these three agencies that is to say ONGC, the Survey of India and the National Institute of Geo-physics have no collaboration arrangement with any foreign agencies in this field of collecting seismic information.

SHRI BRAHMA DUTT : The question was asked about ONGC and the Survey of India. Of course, there is a third agency, and in short, I would like to elaborate the position. The ONGC has been conducting gravity surveys all over India for oil exploration. The only gravity measurements made in the Himalayas by ONGC were from 1968 to 1973 and the gravity data pertaining to the Himalayan region collected by the ONGC has not been handed over to any agency in India or abroad. That was the position then. Now, coming to NGRI, prior to 1974, ONGC did hand over to the National Geophysical Research Institute, Hyderabad, the gravity data acquired by it over various sedimentary basins of India excluding the Himalayan region for oil exploration for the purpose of compiling and preparing a composite anomaly map of India and like ONGC the Survey of India also handed over their own data to NGRI for the above purpose, and the result was that an anomaly map was published by NGRI. But it is so much smoothened and is on such a scale that it cannot be used for any strategic purpose.

The Survey of India in collaboration with the University of Wisconsin and Hawaii

Institute of Geo-Physics University of Hawaii, had carried out gravimetric observations at a number of points. That was done under our international commitment to the International Union of Geodesy, *i.e.* for locating mineral resources, studying the shape of the earth and Geo-Physics and also for calibration of gravimeters and standardisation of gravity data in India.

A technical paper based on this was published in 1955. But in 1965 restrictions were imposed on sharing this data with anybody and on publications also. No further data were exchanged with outside agencies since then. In addition, no further collaborations were made by the Survey of India in this field after that.

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN : I am still not clear in my mind. I want a specific answer. One part is clear. No data have been shared after 1955, although it is admitted that between 1955 and 1974 there was joint collection of this data. So, these data at least collected by one agency were automatically available to the collaborating partner, the two institutions mentioned by the hon. Minister. So, I want to know specifically, as of today whether there is any collaboration arrangement by any of these three agencies in this specific field and I also like to know which are the agencies, apart from the two that you have mentioned with which the data was shared and exchanged with the outside agencies, if any other than these two that you have mentioned already, with which the data was shared prior to 1955, or 1974, as the case may be ?

SHRI BRAHMA DUTT : I have submitted about ONGC, about the Survey of India, about NGRI. At present there is no collaboration and there is no sharing.

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN : Are there certain other outside agencies that you have not mentioned, with which you have shared the data before the cut off date ? Which are those agencies ?

SHRI BRAHMA DUTT : I have already submitted about NGRI and the Survey of India that they had an international commitment with the International Union of Geodesy. That was shared.

That was prior to 1955 and after that nothing has been done, no collaboration has been entered into.

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN : Mr. Speaker, the International Union of Geodesy, that data is shared with all other countries in the world...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Sode Ramaiah. Yes, Mr. Mohanty, do you want to ask a question ?

SHRI BRAJAMOHAN MOHANTY : Whether the hon. Minister has the information, as to how many foreign collaborators are working in ONGC and Survey of India and elsewhere, and whether they have access to this type of data or not.

(Interruptions)

I think I have not been answered.

SHRI BRAHMA DUTT : The hon. Member wanted to know the number of foreigners working in ONGC and Survey of India. That information has to be collected. But we take care that nothing important is accessible to them.

SHRI BRAJAMOHAN MOHANTY : Sir, I wanted to know as to how many foreign collaborators...

MR. SPEAKER : He has not got the information. He will provide you.

[Translation]

Outstanding Sugarcane dues from Sugar Mills in Uttar Pradesh

***108. SHRI RAM NAGINA MISHRA :** Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) the amount of the sugarcane dues pertaining to the last year outstanding against the sugar mills in Uttar Pradesh and arrangements made for its payment; and

(b) whether it is a fact that some of the mills are running in heavy loss and it is proposed to close them and if so, the names thereof ?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) :

(a) For the 1985-86 sugar season, as on 30th September, 1986, the sugar factories in Uttar Pradesh had paid about Rs. 401 crores out of the total cane price of Rs. 405 crores payable for the season, leaving a balance of about Rs. 4 crores. The responsibility for having the price cleared lies with the State Governments who have the necessary powers and field organizations to enforce the same. The Central Government on its part has been taking steps aimed at improving the liquidity of the sugar industry to enable them to make timely payments. As a result of the Governmental efforts, the arrears during the last season have been the minimum.

(b) The Central Government do not maintain the profit and loss accounts in respect of sugar mills which are mainly in private or cooperative sectors. The profitability of a sugar factory depends on a variety of factors such as cane availability, technical and managerial competence etc. The Central Government have no proposals at present to close down any sugar factory.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : First you tell me who is sweet amongst you ? Have you called him back or he has come back on his own ?

SHRI RAM NAGINA MISHRA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I solicit your cooperation. This is a matter concerning sugar; it is a sweet subject. Everybody drinks sugar.

AN HON. MEMBER : They eat sugar and not drink it.

SHRI RAM NAGINA MISHRA : The people make its syrup and drink it. The hon. Minister has evaded answer to the question that I had asked. He has not replied to it properly. The only reply given by him is that Rs. 4 crores are outstanding as dues. What I wanted to ask was how much of these 4 crore rupees which is outstanding against the sugar mills as sugarcane price was outstanding against the Government and which mill had the highest dues outstanding against its name.

I wanted to know sector-wise break-up of the dues, e.g. the private sector, public sector and Sugar Corporation etc., which he has not indicated ?

Besides, how much the sugar mills owe to the banks and to the Central Government ? This too has not been replied to ?

MR. SPEAKER : You put the question.

SHRI RAM NAGINA MISHRA : I want to know how much dues are outstanding against the private sector, the Cooperative sector and the Sugar Corporation ? What steps the Central Government are taking to ensure that the sugar mills do not face such a situation in future ? I want separate answers to these points.

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD : Hon. Speaker, Sir, I do not have separate figures, but as I said earlier, this is for the first time after 4 or 5 years or rather after a long time that the arrears are so low. I would say that this comes to only 1 per cent as compared to 3.4 per cent last year. Prior to that, it was 7.4 per cent and before that in 1982-83, it was 16.3 per cent. In 1982, the arrears amounted to Rs. 70 crores, but this year the arrears have fallen from 70 crores to Rs. 4 crores. So far as the number of factories against which arrears are outstanding is concerned, there are only 32 mills out of 100 in Uttar Pradesh against which arrears are due and out of these 32, 10 mill are such against which more than 10 lakhs are due. So far as the sector-wise figures are concerned, I shall send these figures to the hon. Member later on.

SHRI RAM NAGINA MISHRA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister might be aware that the Central Government was running five mills in Uttar Pradesh. Why the Government are not running these mills now ? I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to how much arrears were due to the farmers as cane price from these five mills at the time when the Central Government had taken over their management and what was the corresponding figure of these arrears when they left their management ? Besides, sugar mills of Deoria and Betalpur were being run by the Central Government, but now they have abandoned these mills.

I would like to know how much arrears are outstanding against these mills and what steps the Central Government propose to take in future to run Deoria and Betalpur sugar mills which were abandoned by them earlier ?

SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Central Government had taken over those mills because their owners did not want to run them. When the mill-owners did not run them, they suffered heavy losses. I do not have the figures of these losses right now. If the hon. Member wants to have them, I shall send those figures to him later on. We have also discussed this matter with the State Government and told them to run these mills if they want, because we want that there should be no difficulty to the cane suppliers. At one stage, but State Government agreed to run them, but now, we are considering to run some of these mills. When they refused to run the mills, the Central Government had to run them and these mills suffered heavy losses because their machinery and other equipments were old and obsolete.

SHRI RAM NAGINA MISHRA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, my question has not been replied to fully... (*Interruptions*)...

SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT : So far as the question of these 5 mills is concerned, we are thinking what to do about them. First, we thought of re-structuring them and we have also asked the State Government to run them but—

[*English*]

—this is a long-term process, so I cannot say anything.

[*Translation*]

We are also thinking in terms of framing a long-term sugar policy. We want that the new sugar mills should also be set up and the number of sugar mills should be increased.

SHRI MANOJ PANDEY : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister the number of mills in U.P. and Bihar which received funds from the Central Government in the name of modernisation

and whether these mills actually affected modernisation or not ?

MR. SPEAKER : Had they effected modernisation, why would there have been losses ?

SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT : I do not have information right now as to how many of them got money from the Central Government and whether they effected modernisation or not.

(*Interruptions*)

According to my personal view, the Sugar Development Fund, which is with the Government, is not being fully utilized. It is our endeavour to see that this fund is fully utilized to effect modernisation. There has been some delay in framing rules, but now the rules have been framed. We want that it should be implemented on a time-bound scale. In case the hon. Member has any information about any mill to the effect that they have not utilized the money fully, we shall order a thorough inquiry into it.

SHRI RAM PYARE PANIKA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister has stated in his reply that the arrears outstanding against the sugar mills in U.P. amount to Rs. 4 crores, but at the same time he has also said that the arrears do not exceed Rs. 10 lakhs individually. I would like to cite a specific example in this regard. Shahganj Sugar Factory in Jaunpur district which was under the private sector was closed down two years ago. This mill owes Rs. 2 crores to the farmers and Rs. 1.5 crores to the workers. He has not given this information. Therefore, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether he would make an arrangement so that the arrears due to the farmers and workers are paid to them by this particular factory ? This is a very serious matter. We are not able to face the public in Jaunpur. Will the hon. Minister take steps to get these dues paid and help in running this mill ?

SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT : My colleague has said that ten factories are such which owe more than Rs. 10 lakhs as arrears. It means, what is being said may be true...

MR. SPEAKER : He had given the figure of four crores. Even as it is it amounts to Rs. 3 or 4 crores.

SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT : As regards the efforts made to get the arrears paid, I have myself written twice to the Chief Ministers. The Secretary has also written that the arrears should be paid.

[English]

SHRI S.M. GURADDI : Is it not a fact that these mills are running in a heavy loss because of the bad policy of the Government to import sugar from other countries ?

SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT : This is not a fact. With due respect I want to tell you, in framing the sugar policy in the country the Government has to balance a number of interests. One is the interest of the sugarcane growers so that they get adequate price, otherwise they would not grow it. So in reply to your question we have to say 'no'.

Secondly, we have to see the interest of the consumer so that he gets sugar at a reasonable price. Thirdly we have to see that the mills are economically viable. We had to import sugar which we are progressively reducing. We sell sufficient quantity and import as much less sugar as possible. We are considering all these things in the new Sugar Policy in the Seventh Five Year Plan.

SHRI S.M. GURADDI : When will the new Sugar Policy come ? Will it come after the season ?

SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT : So far as the sugar cane minimum price for 1987-88 is concerned, we shall announce it very soon. We are doing this exercise. I think, perhaps, in a few days it will be known.

SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO : The minimum statutory cane price is not at all remunerative and realistic and the several State Governments are announcing statutory price. The Government of India has increased levy sugar price to a great extent. Will the Government come out with a rational policy to pay the cane growers a remunerative price at least now because in some States the growers are going to make agitation to get remunerative

price ? Will the Government come out with that for the cane growers keeping in view the cost of cultivation ?

SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT : The hon. Member is aware that the minimum statutory sugar cane price is fixed as some kind of a support price so that if there is a lot of sugar cane they may at least get that. The price is determined by Central Government in consultation and on the advice of the Agricultural Costs and Price Commission which also takes into consideration various factors. As the hon. Member is aware, in his State and also in other States the actual price on which sugar cane is sold is on the advice of the State Governments. The State Governments advise the sugar mills to purchase sugar cane at a particular price. But actually they have been getting much more price than the minimum price which is fixed. Minimum price is only the support price so that if there is lot of sugar cane, the farmers do not suffer.

[Translation]

Setting up of Ultra High Frequency Centre at Pithoragarh

*109. **SHRI HARISH RAWAT :** Will the Minister of COMMUNICATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the site for the Ultra High Frequency (U.H.F.) centre proposed to be set up at Pithoragarh has been selected;

(b) if so, whether construction work of this centre has since been started; and

(c) if not, the reasons for delay and the amount proposed to be spent on the construction work of this centre during the current financial year and the time by which it is likely to be completed ?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) There was a plan to construct a combined Telecom. Building for Telephone Exchange and Ultra High Frequency Station at this site. Due to financial constraints and economy measures adopted by Government of India, it was decided to postpone the construction work of this centre at the above site and go in for rented accommodation. No expenditure is thus expected to be incurred on the construction work during the financial year.

However, the telephone exchange and UHF link will be commissioned by March, 1988, using rented accommodation.

[*Translation*]

SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have been asking this question from the Ministry for the last four years... (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : God willing, he has three more years to ask the question.

[*Translation*]

SHRI HARISH RAWAT : I want to congratulate the Telecommunications Department that they have been consistent in their reply during the last four years irrespective of the fact that the Ministers have been changing. But this time I am grateful to the hon. Minister—he is quite an efficient person—that at least he has changed the date of commissioning. I would like to know from the hon. Minister the time by which S.T.D. facility to Delhi and Lucknow would be provided from UHF, Pithoragarh after it is commissioned ?

[*English*]

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : Sir, I fully appreciate the feeling of the hon. Member. It is a longstanding demand and as I said, it is going to be installed by March 1988, if not earlier.

As regards the demand for STD facilities, I will discuss with the hon. Member and I can assure him that I will

take special care so that he gets the facilities there.

[*Translation*]

SHRI HARISH RAWAT : The hon. Minister has replied very politely and, therefore, it appears that I shall have to wait for this S.T.D. facility for another 4 or 5 years.

MR. SPEAKER : He has given a sugar-coated pill.

SHRI HARISH RAWAT : I would like to mention that in the matter of telecommunications, Uttar Pradesh is very backward as compared to all the other States and it will take a long time for the State to come at par with the other States. In such a situation, will the hon. Minister state the number of districts in U.P. which are not yet linked with the State Capital, Lucknow, through U.H.F. and microwave link and the steps proposed to be taken to connect these districts with the State capital through U.H.F. and micro-wave link ?

[*English*]

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : Sir, there are 57 district headquarters in U.P. State and till date 30 district headquarters have already been covered. The work on the remaining 27 district headquarters is in various stages and I assure that within the Seventh Five-Year Plan, all the district headquarters of Uttar Pradesh numbering 57 will be connected with the State Capitals. This is an assurance.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Sir, it has been the pronounced policy of this Government that STD facilities should be given in all the districts. I would like to know how many district headquarters in this country are still without STD facilities. In my district which is Pathanamthitta, there is no STD facility, there is a microwave tower, but STD facility is not there. I would like to know from the hon. Minister that how many district headquarters are yet to be provided with STD facilities and within what time these district headquarters will be provided with these facilities, including my district.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : About the specific district, I will not be able to say right now, but he is very much right that wherever there are electronic exchanges we are trying to cover with STD facilities and in the Seventh Five-Year Plan we are trying to cover almost all the areas. About your particular request, I shall write back to you, I do not have the information right now.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Micro-wave tower is already there.

(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI ARJUN SINGH) : No problem, we will connect it.

[Translation]

SHRI SHAMINDER SINGH : I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether he has fixed some criterion under which manually operated exchanges in small towns could be converted into automatic exchanges when the number of telephone connections in such a town reaches say 1,000 or 1,500? Has he fixed such a criterion?

MR. SPEAKER : Have you fixed any criteria that after 1,000 or 1,500 telephone connections, manuals would be converted into automatic ones?

[English]

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : Sir, in the main answer of the question, I have said that in the Seventh Five Year Plan, we propose to have 11 lakh telephone connnections. And the process which is being involved is, for the oldest telephone exchange, the earliest is the replacement. If in this category, some of the exchanges of your State come, we shall take care of them.

MR. SPEAKER : Sometimes agc also helps !

SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, just like TV, the Communication Department is producing so many small auto exchanges with 10 or 12 telephone lines. But it is a fact that all these

telephones are not working properly and the exchanges are not working properly. Merely in transferring one small operator from one place to another, there is no difference. I am myself is a victim of this non-functioning. I am from the rural area and I never got a call matured, even the lightning call, from Delhi to my residence.

Because of the fact that rural exchanges are not working properly, may I know that before you produce so many more exchanges, would you kindly ensure that the auto exchanges are functioning properly?

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : Sir, in our country, 70% of the population is living in rural areas and we trying to give more exchanges in rural areas. As a matter of fact, our policy is to inttroduce 10-line automatic exchanges. Now, we are giving only 25 lines and we are not giving any manual exchange where the lines are less than 100.

As regards the functioning, as I said, more automatic exchanges will be given with modern facilities and the trouble that you are facing now will be overcome by the end of the 7th Five Year Plan.

Private Sector Participation in Power Generation

***111. SHRI HARIHAR SOREN† :**
PROF. K.V. THOMAS :

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have any proposal to set up additional capacity to generate 3000 MW power in the private sector during the Seventh Five Year Plan;

(b) whether the private participation proposed to be permitted to such an extent is in accordance with the Industrial Policy Resolution of 1956; and

(c) if not, the reasons for allowing this departure from the approved policy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE

MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) to (c). The policy with regard to the generation and distribution of electricity continues to be regulated by the Industrial Policy Resolution of 1956. The expansion of existing privately-owned utilities or the establishment of new units in the private sector is not precluded under the Resolution. The additional generating capacity which may be set up in the private sector in the Seventh Plan will depend on the suitability of the proposals.

SHRI HARIHAR SOREN : Sir, the hon. Minister has not replied specifically to (a) part of my Question, i.e. whether Government has any proposal to set up additional capacity to generate 3,000 M.W. power in the private sector during the 7th Five Year Plan. However, the Minister has stated in her reply that the Government policy continues to be regulated by the Industrial Policy Resolution of 1956.

As you know, there is acute shortage of power in the whole of the country, specially in the State of Orissa. In view of the shortage of electricity in the country, whether Government have any proposal to allow projects being set up in the private sector? If not, what is the proposal to meet the power requirements of the country, particularly in the State of Orissa in the 7th Five Year Plan?

SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI : Sir, may I start with the last one regarding Orissa first? In Orissa, there is a proposal and it is in the nature of a large size captive power plant from M/s. Torsteel Research Foundation for 3×120 M.W. This is under examination. The proposal of the Foundation which is going to be a joint sector captive unit was cleared by the CEA in January, 1986 subject to the confirmation of coal linkage, environmental clearance and other requirements to be fulfilled. These requirements are still to be met. This is with regard to Orissa.

I do agree with the hon. Member that there is great shortage in the country in the power sector and in spite of all our efforts, we will be able and we hope to expand during the Seventh Five Year Plan, 22,245 MW of electricity only. Financial

constraints stand in the way and it is because of this that we have referred to the Industrial Policy Resolution and every thing falls within the framework and under the Policy as it stands today. Only we have clarified regarding the captive plant so that though it falls within the 25 MW, it can be taken up immediately by the State Electricity Board. Above 25, MW has to be cleared by the CEA. Otherwise, I think, the hon. Member agrees with me that the Policy has not been modified and we have tried to expand and replace those as we have stated in the Resolution, in two or three utilities.

Only in new one, in Bombay suburban, we have allowed in principle the generation of 500 MW subject to various conditions. But that is the only exception.

SHRI HARIHAR SOREN : It is understood that there are two proposals in the public sector undertakings in the State of Orissa, the construction of Ib Valley Power Project and the expansion of Talcher Thermal Power Station. May I know what is the allotment of funds for those two projects?

SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI : This Question is about private sector participation in power generation.

I need notice for this particular question.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : According to press reports—which I would like the hon. Minister either to confirm or deny or correct—sanction has been given for the erection of a Thermal Power Station in Bholpur to one of the large industrial houses. It is said in the press report—I am sorry I could not bring that newspaper cutting with me today—that it is in collaboration with some Japanese firm. I would like to know whether there is any truth in this report and if so, could the hon. Minister kindly give us some more details.

SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI : I do not have the press report just now here. I can neither confirm nor deny. That is the position at present.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : She may not be able to confirm or deny the details. The Minister must know whether clearance

for generation of power is given for private party.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : She said it has not been given.

MR. SPEAKER : Are you taking about press report or from your knowledge ?

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : I have to depend on press reports.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : May I say that no such clearance has yet been given ?

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : In that case, why is she following non-alignment policy ?

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Is there such a proposal ?

SHRI VASANT SATHE : I had said it before and I want to reiterate that there is going to be a gap of about 10,000 MW in the Seventh Five Year Plan itself. Now, keeping in mind the present Industrial Policy Resolution, if additionality to Seventh Five Year Plan allocation which is above Rs. 35,000 crores will help us to generate and instal 22,000 MW of capacity, and if to make up this gap we get proposals from private parties within the country or bilaterally that would help us to generate power, and if it is in the national interest, we would consider such proposal on merit. That is the only way we can meet this gap. Otherwise, we will not be able to meet this gap. The only criterion is 'national interest'. National Interest will be the supreme criterion.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : According to him, Public Sector is not in the national interest.

(Interruptions)

SHRI VASANT SATHE : It is in the national interest.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Why are you replying to the question which has not been put ?

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : He has

publicly stated that Public Sector is not in the national interest. He has written a series of articles on that.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : I beg to submit that I have not said so. This is total distortion of facts. You have not even read those articles.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Not allowed.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : This is not allowed.

*(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER : Without my permission, nothing goes on record.

*(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Panika, will you take your seat ? I have allowed only Mr. Rath.

SHRI SOMNATH RATH : As far as Orissa is concerned, we are only hearing five words—that is : 'in principle', 'in policy', 'as far as' 'the infrastructure is concerned', 'there is enough scope for generation of electricity in Orissa' and the last word is : 'on account of financial constraints it is under consideration'. I want to know from the hon. Minister—he has just now stated that in the national interest, where there is infrastructure and possibility of generating electricity steps will be taken. I want to know whether immediate steps should be taken to start construction at least one project and complete it ?

SHRI VASANT SATHE : As far as Orissa is concerned...

SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS : I want to raise one important point...

MR. SPEAKER : There are so many hon. Members who are always ready...

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Nothing doing. There is no hard and fast rule...

SHRI VASANT SATHE : As far as Orissa is concerned, we have good deposits of coal in Talcher and Ib. There are proposals ready for posing financial assistance in both Ib and Talcher—from the State Government as well as from Central Government. As soon as we are able to find resources, these projects will be taken up.

SHRI SOMNATH RATH : How soon ?

SHRI VASANT SATHE : As soon as resources are available.

SHRI SOMNATH RATH : That is vague.

(Interruptions)

SHRI VASANT SATHE : I am trying to find resources from everywhere.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI DAMODAR PANDEY : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the gap of 10,000 MW left in the Seventh Five Year Plan will not affect the eastern parts of the country the most, especially Bihar, Orissa and Bengal which are already highly deficit in the matter of electricity ? Does he propose to set up super thermal power stations to remove shortage of electricity in the areas where infrastructure as well as cheap coal is available ? Will such power stations be set up at places where coal is produced and has he any programme to remove shortage of electricity in such areas ?

SHRI VASANT SATHE : Our programme is to set up most of the super thermal power stations at such places where coal is available, where pithead stations can be set up which facilitates generation of energy and with this end in view, we are formulating our policy. As I said earlier, we are very anxious to generate more power but we are short of resources. If we choose to get resources from abroad, we incur your displeasure and if we mobilize resources from within, even then we are at the receiving end. How then can energy be generated, if we do not mobilize resources ?

[English]

SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS : I want to raise a very important point. The hon. Minister told us in the last Session in this House that they were having short-term and long-term policies for making power available, that he is inviting black-money holders to invest in power generation and that he would see that power is given to the industry. Has Government made any assessment about closure of factories on account of power shortage, how many factories are closed today ? And what are the remedial measures taken to have them reopened ? I would also like to point out that in the aluminium industry, power is one of the main things. The Indian Aluminium Company in my State is closed on account of power shortage. Have you got any programme to supply power on a short-term basis to the industries and factories which are closed today ?

SHRI VASANT SATHE : I know there are industries like aluminium industry which are, what is called, power-guzzlers; power is the main raw material for aluminium. Our policy, therefore, is to allow such industries to have captive power plants either individually or even collectively. This is our present policy. But they must generate resources to set up captive power plants. This is the essence of the whole thing.

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO : The hon. Minister has just now mentioned in his reply that there are vast quantities of good coal available in IB and Talchar. But both these projects have not been included in the Seventh Five-Year Plan. How does he propose to find funds for them and how soon ?

SHRI VASANT SATHE : We have placed both these projects for bilateral assistance, and there are proposals for such assistance. The moment such proposals are finalised, I will be glad to have them included for implementation.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : The House is not concerned about from where you get the funds, but the fact remains that we cannot do without power.

[English]

**Development of Non-Conventional
Sources of Energy**

***112. PROF. P.J. KURIEN :** Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the total amount spent during the last three years for developing non-conventional sources of energy in the country;

(b) the percentage of energy needs being met by these sources;

(c) whether the percentage could be substantially increased; and

(d) if so, the steps taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) to (d). A statement is given below :

Statement

(a) During the last 3 years, an amount of about Rs. 230 crores has been spent for the development as well as utilisation of non-conventional sources of energy including biogas and improved chulhas in the country.

(b) A large portion of the total energy consumption in the country is met through non-commercial sources of energy, comprising agricultural residues, animal dung and firewood. The share of non-commercial source has undergone a change from 67% in 1953-54 to 40% in 1980, largely as a result of progressive replacement of non-commercial fuel by commercial fuels. The development of non-conventional energy is aimed at utilising biomass, biogas, solar, wind and other forms of energy for meeting the energy needs of the people in the country particularly in rural areas. In most cases, these sources have the potential to meet practically all the energy needs of communities in rural areas, through the use of suitable technologies. Already, around 6 lakhs family size biogas

units, 21 lakhs improved chulhas, more than 1000 solar thermal systems, 3000 photo-voltaic powered street lights and 2.3 MW wind electric power etc. have been installed. These have substantially improved the quality of life in the villages and homes where they are operating and the annual saving in fuel is also high in value compared to the investment made. However, energy equivalent in percentage is relatively small compared to the total energy consumed in the country.

(c) and (d). Yes, Sir. The percentage can be increased if increased investment is made for expansion of various extension as well as R and D programmes in the field of non-conventional sources of energy. It can also be increased as costs of non-conventional energy devices come down. Steps are being taken in this regard by intensifying R and D and by expanding volume production and installation consistent with the financial resources available.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN : The hon. Minister has given a long statement and he has also spelt out the amount that has been spent in the last three years. But he has not mentioned whether there was a physical target for the production of non-conventional energy. I would like to know from him whether there was a physical target for the last two years of the Seventh Plan for production of non-conventional energy and if so, what percentage of this physical target has been achieved and what percentage of the total energy production is that.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : As far as physical targets are concerned, in most of the non-conventional energy sources, we have crossed the target. If actual figures are required, I will pass them on to the hon. Member. But I may tell him that, already during the last three years, that is the last two years of the Sixth Plan and one year of the Seventh Plan, we have spent about Rs. 230 crores which, I know, is negligible as far as total energy is concerned. But already around six lakhs family size biogas

units, 21 lakhs improved chulhas, more than 1000 solar thermal systems, 3000 photo-voltaic powered street lights and 3.3 MW wind electric power, etc., have been installed. Today we are generating fuel-substitution by biogas equivalent to about Rs. 85 crores. The same amount of Rs. 85 crores worth of fertilisers we get; and improved chulhas save about Rs. 60 crores. Thus you will see that the investment that we are making in non-conventional energy sources is really economical and advantageous. We wish we had more resources for this.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Coal Reserves

*101. SHRI VIJOY KUMAR YADAV : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Geological Survey of India has recently struck a huge coal reserve in some States; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps being taken for its exploitation ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) and (b). Geological Survey of India have estimated coal reserves of all categories of coal 2342.65 m.t. in five states during its Regional Exploration of coal in field season 1985-86 (upto 30-6-86). Statewise break-up of coal reserves in million tonnes is as under :

1. Orissa	925.00
2. Madhya Pradesh	936.50
3. West Bengal	586.31
4. Bihar	187.27
5. Andhra Pradesh	7.57
<hr/>	
Total	2342.65
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It has been planned to exploit the coal reserves by opening new mines to increase the production of coal from the level of 155 m.t. in the year 1985-86 to 226 m.t. in 1989-90 and 400 m.t. in two thousand A.D.

Allocation of imported edible oils to Karnataka

*102. SHRI H.B. PATIL : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the State of Karnataka has approached Union Government for allocation of imported edible oils for public distribution; and

(b) if so, the quantity issued to them so far ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) During the Oil year 1985 86 (Nov., 85 to Oct., 86) Karnataka has been allocated 41,500 Mts. of Palmolein against which they have lifted 35,021 Mts. till 25-10-1986.

Phased Decontrol of Cement

*106. SHRI SODE RAMAIAH : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Planning Commission has suggested a phased decontrol of cement to end the existing policy of partial decontrol ; and

(b) if so, the details and Government's reaction thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGALA RAO) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Setting up of Ocean Thermal Plant in Lakshadweep Islands

*107. SHRI DHARAM PAL SINGH MALIK : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to State :

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of Government to set up a Ocean Thermal Plant in Lakshadweep Islands;

(b) if so, the time by which it will start functioning; and

(c) the funds allocated for the purpose ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A detailed Feasibility Report for setting up of a 1 MW OTEC Plant at Lakshadweep was commissioned through M/s Metallurgical and Engineering Consultants (India Ltd., Ranchi, a Public Sector Consultancy firm. The Estimated capital cost was considered too high even for pilot plant. Different alternatives are, therefore being examined to reduce the initial cost to enable a final decision in the matter.

(c) The Seventh Plan allocation for ocean energy development is Rs. 3 crores.

[Translation]

Opening of Telephone Exchanges in Rural Areas

*110. SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have any scheme for opening more telephone exchanges in rural areas;

(b) if so, the names of places where Government propose to open these telephone exchanges during the current financial year and State-wise details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI ARJUN SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A statement is laid on the table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-3213/86]

(c) Does not arise,

[English]

Privatisation of Sale of Coal

*113. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have a proposal under consideration for privatisation of the sale of coal; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Demand for Cooking Gas

*114. SHRI ANANTA PRASAD SETHI :

SHRI AKHTAR HASAN :

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that the demand for cooking gas connections is increasing day-by-day;

(b) if so, whether Government has sought information from the States regarding their demands;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether Union Government has fixed some targets to be achieved during the Seventh Five Year Plan period in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). No, Sir. Release of new LPG connections is made according to an annual plan by the oil marketing companies. This plan is determined by projections regarding augmentation in the availability of LPG, of bottling capacity and of transportation and infrastructural arrangements.

(d) Apart from an actual release of 17.1 lakh connections in 1985-86, during the

remaining year of the Seventh Plan it is proposed to release approximately 70 lakh new connections, subject to augmentation of LPG and bottling capacity.

Letters of Intent recommended by Orissa

***115. SHRI SOMNATH RATH :** Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the number of applications for letters of intent recommended by the Government of Orissa pending with the Ministry;

(b) since how long have these applications been pending; and

(c) the action proposed to be taken to decide them at an early date ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGALA RAO) : (a) to (c). As on 31.10.1986, twelve applications received under the provisions of Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951 for the grant of Letters of Intent for locating industries in Orissa are at various stages of considerations. Of these, four applications are pending for about six months, five applications for four months and the rest have been received recently. It is the constant endeavour of the Government to dispose of all pending applications as expeditiously as possible.

Setting up of Karnal Oil Refinery Project

***116. SHRI RAM DHAN :** Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the work of Karnal Oil Refinery Project which was cleared two years ago has not started as yet resulting in escalation of the cost;

(b) the reasons for delay in setting up this refinery; and

(c) the remedial action being taken to expedite the work ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) :

(a) to (c). Proposal for setting up of a 6 MTPA grass root refinery at Karnal was approved in September, 1984. Preliminary work on acquisition of land, soil investigation, etc. were started. However, during the exercises made for financing the 7th Plan, it was found that constraint of resources was coming in the way of implementing this project in the Public Sector. As a result, setting up of this refinery in the joint sector is being considered and offers from various private parties for participation are being examined.

Separate Telephone District for Industrial Complex of Kalyan

***117. SHRI S. G. GHOLAP :** Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are considering to form a separate Kalyan Telephone District, which is a highly Industrially developed complex, for communication purposes;

(b) the progress of work at Murbad Telephone Exchange;

(c) the progress made in giving telephone connections at Dhasai Saralgaon and Shivale of Murbad Taluka, Thana district; and

(d) the progress of the buildings of telephone exchanges at Kulgaon, Dombali and Ambernath ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI ARUN SINGH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Capacity of Murbad Exchange has been raised from 100 to 200 lines.

(c) (i) A Long Distance public Telephone for Dhasai is expected to be opened on 30.11.1986.

(ii) A Long Distance Public Telephone was opened at Saralgaon in March, 1985.

(iii) Shivale Long Distance Public Telephone is not justified for the present.

(d) (i) **Kulgaon**—Case of acquisition of land is in final stage of processing.

(ii) **Domball**—Land has been acquired and contract for MAX-I building has recently been awarded.

(iii) **Ambernath**—Land has been acquired and proposal for an MAX-I building has been approved.

[*Translation*]

Supply of Edible Oil to States

*118. **SHRI K. N. PRADHAN** : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to State the quantity of edible oil supplied to the States during the period from April, 1986 to September, 1986, month-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (**SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT**) : The quantity of imported edible oils supplied month-wise to States under public distribution system during the period from April, 1986 to September, 1986 is as under :—

(quantity in M. tonne)

Month	Allocation	Lifting
April, 1986	42,025	32,575
May, 1986	49,940	38,553
June, 1986	55,740	38,724
July, 1986	60,130	57,814
August, 1986	82,580	59,253
September, 1986	88,980	83,914
Total	3,79,395	3,10,833

[*English*]

Exemption to Industries from Capacity Utilisation Restriction

*119. **SHRI NITYANANDA MISRA** :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether in order to bridge the trade gap, the Committee on Trade Policies had suggested that industries should be exempted from capacity utilisation restriction if the excess production was utilised for exports;

(b) whether any decision on the above recommendation has been taken and if so, the details;

(c) whether any assessment has been made by Government as to the surplus production that will be generated if the suggestion to remove the limit of capacity utilisation is implemented in different industries; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (**SHRI J. VENGALA RAO**) : (a) The Committee on Trade Policies recommended that export production, in appropriate cases, should be exempted from capacity licensing provisions implicit in industrial policy.

(b) Government had exempted licensed/registered industrial undertakings in March 1981 from obtaining substantial expansion licences in respect of capacities in excess of the licensed capacity, provided such additional capacity was entirely for exports. This facility was subject to the conditions that the item was not reserved for exclusive production in the small scale sector and that the industrial undertakings did not instal additional machinery, indigenous or imported for achieving the excess production. It has now been decided, in the light of the above recommendation of the Committee, to do away with these restrictive conditions. Copies of a Press Note dated 25.9.86 and a notification dated 6.11.86 issued in this regard have been supplied to Parliament Library.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Opening of 'All Women' Post Offices

*120. **SHRI N. DENNIS** : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether 'all women' post offices are proposed to be opened soon at various places; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI ARUN SINGH) : (a) and (b). Subject to availability of suitable officials, the Department encourages selected post offices being wholly or mainly managed by women employees. There are 7 such post offices functioning in Delhi, the names of which are furnished in the statement given below.

Statement

Names of 'All Women' post offices at present functioning in Delhi Circle

1. Parliament House.
2. Sansadiya Saudha.
3. Rail Bhavan.
4. Maiden's Hotel.
5. Sadiq Nagar.
6. R. K. Puram Sector VIII.
7. Defence Colony.

Development of Wind and Solar Energy in Gujarat

1033. **SHRI MOHANBHAI PATEL :** Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether a working group set up by Government to propose a programme for large scale utilisation of wind and solar energy in the country has submitted any report;

(b) if so, the details of the recommendations made and the steps taken by Government to implement them;

(c) if not, by when Government expect the working group to submit its report; and

(d) what other measures are being taken by the Government to develop these sources of energy in the country and particularly in coastal area of Gujarat State ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) to (c). A Working Group had been set up during 1984-85 to prepare proposals for the 7th Plan period in the area of non-conventional sources of energy. This Working Group prepared comprehensive proposals for this area, including large scale utilisation of wind and solar energy in the country, with a recommended Seventh Plan outlay of Rs. 5574.07 crores (including Rs. 2146.00 crores as loans) to achieve annual energy generation/saving of 42.62 million tonnes of coal replacement from non-conventional energy sources. The actual allocation was however Rs. 519 crores for the five year plan. The programmes are being implemented vigorously within this constraint.

(d) Comprehensive programmes of research and development, demonstration, utilisation, industrial, production and evaluation to develop non-conventional sources of energy throughout the country including Gujarat coastal areas are being implemented by the DNES. This includes wind electric generators in coastal Gujarat, and Biogas plants, improved chulhas, energy plantations, biomass energy systems, solar energy units etc. in villages throughout the country including coastal Gujarat.

Setting up of Earth Stations

1034. **SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK :** Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of earth stations set up in the country;

(b) the location of each of these earth stations;

(c) whether Government propose to set up some more earth stations in 1986-87;

(d) if so, the places identified for the location of these earth stations; and

(e) the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) 29 fixed and three transperable earth stations for public telecommunication.

(b) Location of fixed earth stations are at—

Delhi, Bombay, Calcutta, Madras and Shillong, Ahmedabad. Bhubaneswar, Ernakulam, Hyderabad, Jaipur, Jullundur, Lucknow, Patna.

Agartala, Aizwal, Bhuji, Carnicobar, Gangtok, Imphal, Itanagar, Jodhpur, Kohima, Kavaratty, Leh, Minicoy, Panjim, Port Blair, Srinagar and Kulu.

(c) Work pertaining to a number of additional earth stations is in progress. The completion of works at these earth stations is however expected during next year viz. 1987-88.

(d) and (e). The places where additional earth stations under installation are at Doda, Rajouri, Poonch, Kargil, Phoolbani, Keylong, Kalpa, Zero, Deperego, Seppa, Anini, Jaiselmer, Srinagar (Garhwal), Joshimuth, Uttarkashi, Cambell Bay, Diglipur and Mayabunder

Losses on Rasika Plant

1035. SHRI ANANDA PATHAK : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the losses are being incurred by Modern Food Industries (India) Ltd. on its juice drink 'Rasika';

(b) if so, the loss incurred during the last three years; and

(c) whether Government propose to close down this plant in view of continuous losses ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL

SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) and (b). While it is true that the 'Rasika' fruit drink plant of Modern Food Industries (India) Limited, an undertaking of the Ministry, has been incurring losses, the losses have been declining as would be seen from the following data for the last three years :—

(Rs. in lakhs)	
Year	Amount of loss
1983-84	22.25
1984-85	18.81
1985-86	7.44

(c) No, Sir.

Power Tariff in States

1036. DR. SUDHIR ROY : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state the details of the power tariff per unit in different States and Union Territories as on 31st August, 1986 and Union Government's power projects ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : The estimated average rates of electricity for various categories of consumers in different States and Union Territories as on 31.8.1986 are given in the Statement below. Power supplied by the Central Generating Stations is pooled by States/Union Territories with the power generated at their own stations for the purpose of fixation of tariff.

Statement

Statement showing estimated average rates of Electricity for various categories of Consumers (As on 31.8.1986)

S. No.	Name of the SEB/ UT/Elecy. Deptt./ Licensees/Govt. Undertakings	Domestic Lights and fans (30 KWh/ Month)	Commercial Lights and fans (200Kwh/ Month)	Agricultural 5 H.P. 10% I.F. (272 Kwh/ Month)	Small Industries 5 H P. 10%L.F. (272 Kwh/ Month)	Medium Industries 50 KW 30% L.F. (10950 Kwh/ Month)	Large Industries 1000 KW 50% L.F. (365000 Kwh/ Month)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	51.67	96.50	9.50	56.84	55.05	69.15
2.	Assam	60.00	73.00	30.00	57.00	57.00	55.19
3.	Bihar	62.33	83.50	36.00	112.00	110.00	97.28
4.	Gujarat May to Oct.	65.00	90.07	36.51	86.45	93.66	100.73
	Nov. to April	65.00	90.07	36.51	86.45	98.39	105.09
5.	Haryana	45.00	106.25	32.33	65.00	85.50	90.50
6.	H.P.	45.67	82.00	21.94	44.00	59.00	57.00
7.	J and K	33.08	58.90	11.50	22.70	22.70	20.40
8.	Karnataka	55.00	156.25	11.49	86.03	78.67	71.28
9.	Kerala	47.66	60.50	15.22	30.77	22.72	34.20
10.	Madhya Pradesh	Urban 48.00 Rural 46.00	103.50 103.50	16.00 16.50	68.00 68.00	77.61 77.61	95.03 95.03
11.	Maharashtra Bombay and Pune	38.50	109.80	15.31	60.00	80.54	107.33
	Other areas	37.50	104.80	15.31	60.00	80.54	94.10
12.	Meghalaya	50.00	81.00	21.00	70.00	66.85	48.60
13.	Orissa	56.00	95.00	22.75	57.00	65.50	87.28
14.	Punjab	53.84	105.00	13.50	55.00	64.35	62.89
15.	Rajasthan	58.00	96.00	29.00	69.00	83.00	85.00
16.	Tamil Nadu Madras	55.00	115.00	11.49	85.00	85.00	85.12
	Other Areas	55.00	110.00	11.49	80.00	80.00	80.12

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
17.	Uttar Pradesh	74.00	104.00	55.15	89.79	84.46	100.59
18.	West Bengal	57.00	85.00	35.00	63.50	—	94.45
19.	A and N Islands	58.00	51.75	—	43.00	—	—
20.	Arunachal Pradesh	50.00	50.00	—	27.00	27.00	42.00
21.	Chandigarh	36.65	88.00	17.76	32.20	42.37	44.44
22.	D and N Haveli	60.00	92.75	54.19	67.03	62.17	61.89
23.	Delhi	DESU 29.00	91.00	21.00	78.00	78.00	100.80
		NDMC 29.00	92.00	—	78.00	78.00	—
24.	Goa, Daman and Goa	40.00	82.75	25.00	50.00	63.00	68.80
	Diu, Daman and Diu	60.00	83.50	45.00	55.00	63.00	72.67
25.	Lakshadweep	60.00	60.00	—	40.00	32.74	—
26.	Manipur	45.00	—	—	25.00	25.00	—
27.	Mizoram	48.00	60.00	—	25.00	24.46	—
28.	Nagaland	64.00	74.00	50.00	62.00	62.00	62.00
29.	Pondicherry	55.00	135.00	16.85	72.00	72.00	70.50
30.	Sikkim	46.67	64.00	64.00	64.00	64.00	38.88
31.	Tripura	60.00	77.00	35.00	40.00	40.00	—
32.	Ahmedabad	82.72	142.98	73.86	103.05	111.11	109.53
	B.E.S.T.	76.50	185.00	—	151.00	151.54	125.66
33.	Bombay Suburban	79.10	191.60	20.00	140.60	138.45	118.53
	Tatas	—	—	—	—	—	100.46
34.	Calcutta (CESC)	50.80	96.00	—	80.00	93.66	103.50
35.	DVC (a) Bihar area	—	—	—	—	—	73.44
	(b) W. Bengal area	—	—	—	—	—	74.94
36.	Durgapur Projects Ltd.	52.00	57.00	42.00	45.50	46.78	43.84

Import of hydel generators and captive power plants by States Electricity Boards

1037. SHRI RADHAKANTA DIGAL : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether some States Electricity Boards propose to import hydel generators and captive power plants;

(b) if so, the names of the State Electricity Boards that propose to import captive power plants and hydel generators:

(c) the cost of such hydel generators and captive power plants; and

(d) the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (d). Andhra Pradesh State Electricity Board had proposed import of 3 × 30 MW Turbo Generators for Nagarjuna-Sagar Hydro Electric Project from U.K. for a value of Rs. 21.36 crores (c.i.f.). In addition, another proposal from Karnataka Power Corporation had been received for import of 16 Diesel Generating Sets from M/s. Nissho Iwai, Japan for a value of Rs. 45.10 crores (c.i.f.).

Demands of F.C.I. Employees

1038. SHRI KALI PRASAD PANDEY : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a delegation of National Committee of the Food Corporation of India Employees Union met him on 7 October, 1986 and brought to his notice the outstanding demands of FCI Employees through a memorandum;

(b) what are their main demands; and

(c) the reaction of Government thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Their main demands are :

(i) Wage revision;

(ii) Grant of additional IR @ 25%;

(iii) Time Bound Promotion;

(iv) Review of Transfer Policy; and

(v) Scrapping of Regulation 19 (i) of FCI Regulations.

(c) In respect of demands at (i) and (ii) above, a High Power Committee has been appointed by the Central Government in the Department of Public Enterprises under the directives of the Supreme Court. The Committee has been directed to give its report within one year of its assuming office. In respect of the demands at (iii) and (iv), FCI is seized of the matter. The matter at (v) is *sub judice*.

Setting up of Roller Flour Mills

1039. PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether under the guidelines prescribed for setting up roller flour mills, not more than one mill is allowed to be installed in a district;

(b) if so, whether there are any districts where more than one mill have been set up; and

(c) if so, their names and the reasons for not following the guidelines ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Supply of Woollen Garments to ONGC

1040. DR. V. VENKATESH : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Oil and Natural Gas Commission contracted with a private firm for supply of woollen garments for its employees;

(b) whether the supply received by the Commission was not according to the specification agreed to;

(c) whether the employees expressed their discontentment over the quality of garments; and

(d) if so, the facts of the case and action taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir, the quantity supplied by the company was found to be deviating from the prescribed specifications.

(c) and (d). There has been no general discontent over this issue amongst the employees except that a complaint from the Transport Workers Association, Nazira about the quality of woollen cloth has been received. The Oil and Natural Gas Commission are negotiating with the company for suitable price reduction for deviations in the specifications.

Opening of New Extra Departmental Post Offices

1041. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 588 on 22 July, 1986 regarding opening of new Extra Departmental Post Offices and state :

(a) the names of the eighteen places in Himachal Pradesh, districtwise, where the opening of Post Offices could not be effected inspite of their being justified as per existing norms;

(b) whether the Post Offices would be opened now that considerable relaxation has been given in the ban on recruitment by the Ministry of Finance; and

(c) the likely date by which it would be done ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) The names of villages are indicated in the statement given below:

(b) and (c). No, Sir. There is no proposal at present to open new post offices in Himachal Pradesh or other States. As regards relaxation from ban orders, the basic position is that opening of new post offices involves creation on Posts on which a ban still exists. However, in the modified guidelines issued by the Ministry of Finance creation of posts under Plan Schemes and filling up of such posts is permitted with the approval of the Finance Ministry. At present the Department is taking a fresh look at the norms for opening of post offices in rural areas in the light of recommendations of the Committee of Enquiry on Extra Departmental System and taking into account the extensive network already established which in some areas is also redundant to actual requirements of postal traffic. When this exercise is completed, Ministry of Finance is to be approach for approval for opening of new post offices as may be found justified.

Statement

List of villages referred to in part (a) of the reply

District Shimla

Diswani

District Hamirpur

Nara

District Una

Bathu

District Bilaspur

Saikharsi

Reurjaman

District Mandi

Dhauri

Dumatbehli

District Kulu

Dradha

District Lahol and Spiti

Kirding

District Solan

Chamalbhudach

District Sirmour

Mandhra

District Kangra

Dasoli

Kharat

Pandtehar

Matyal

District Chamba

Pansai

District Kanaur

Jani

Ladrang

Production of Oil and Natural Gas

1042. SHRI JAGANNATH PATTNAIK : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether schemes have been finalised to set up the production of oil and natural gas during the Seventh Five Year Plan period; and

(b) if so, the details regarding the specified areas and the amount earmarked for augmenting production of oil and

natural gas in the Seventh Five Year Plan period ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : (a) The Seventh Plan envisages projects for stepping up oil and gas production.

(b) Production is envisaged from Bombay Offshore, Eastern Region and Cambay basin. An outlay of about Rs. 1400 crores has tentatively been identified for development drilling during the Seventh Plan period.

Consumption of Petrol and Petroleum Products

1043. SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have sought the advice of experts to reduce the consumption of petrol and petroleum products so as to save foreign exchange involved in their imports; and

(b) if so, the details regarding the measures taken by Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : (a) and (b). Petroleum Conservation Research Association (PCRA) set up by the Government in 1976, has been carrying out field studies in the organised sectors of industry and road transport, and education campaign in the unorganised sectors of transport, domestic and agriculture. Besides, PCRA has sponsored development of fuel efficient equipment and devices such as :

(i) fuel efficient low air pressure industrial film burner;

(ii) Nutan kerosene wick stove with a thermal efficiency of 60%; and

(iii) Nutan LPG Burner with a thermal efficiency of 70%.

In the agricultural sector, PCRA initiated rectification of lift irrigation pumpsets. During the last two years, 190 diesel driven lift irrigation pumpsets were rectified resulting in diesel saving of around 30% in these pumpsets.

Against a cumulative expenditure of Rs. 5 crores since the inception of PCRA, a saving of petroleum products worth Rs. 150 crores per annum has been achieved by the various conservation activities of PCRA. In the industrial sector alone an annual recurring saving of fuel oil worth Rs. 110 crores has been achieved through efforts of PCRA and the industries. The balance of Rs. 40 crores is attributed to the use of fuel efficient equipment listed above and observance of energy conservation measures in the other sectors of economy.

Setting up of New Telephone Exchange at Jirat, Hooghly, West Bengal

1044. SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a new telephone exchange has been proposed to be set up at Jirat, Hooghly, West Bengal;

(b) whether applications from the customers have already been invited and deposits taken; and

(c) if so, the progress made in its commissioning ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Proposal to instal a 50 line capacity MAX-III type exchange parented to Kalna has been sanctioned. The exchange is expected to be commissioned by March 1987.

Setting up of Experimental Solar Thermal Power Stations

1045. SHRI R.M. BHOYE : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have made efforts to set up experimental solar thermal power stations of 10 to 20 MW;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(c) whether Government have framed any scheme for setting up such power plants; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. In order to set up Solar Thermal Power Plants in the MW range, various technology options have been studied and designs for the most viable options have been prepared. Possible sites for installing Solar thermal power plants in the range of 5-30 MW are now being selected. So far no solar thermal power plant in the MW range has been installed in the country; however, the department of Non-Conventional Energy Sources has already installed one Solar thermal power plant of capacity 22 KW using point focussing collectors and steam engine at village Sollojipally in Andhra Pradesh. The plant is being studied for its performance in actual field conditions. Another power plant of capacity 50 KW using line focussing collectors and steam turbine has recently been designed and is being installed in village Achheja in District Ghaziabad, U.P. The third power plant of capacity 50 KW using point focussing collectors and stirling engine is proposed to be installed in Solar Energy Centre of DNES at Gwal Pahari, District Gurgaon, Haryana. This work has provided inputs necessary for designing/planning MW size solar power plants also.

(c) and (d). Yes, Sir. The Government have drawn up plans for building an experimental 30 MW solar power station based on the line focussing and 1-5 MW station based on point focussing collectors. Investigations are in progress for selecting the best locations for these stations.

New Power Projects in Karnataka

1046. SHRI SRIKANTA DATTA NARASIMHARAJA WADIYAR : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have taken steps to generate additional power in Karnataka during 1986-87;

(b) if so, whether any new power project has been set up in Karnataka in the above year;

(c) if not, whether there is any proposal under the consideration of Government to establish any new power project in that State during Seventh Five Year Plan; and

(d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): (a) The power generating system in Karnataka being mainly hydel, the power generation depends upon favourable monsoon in catchment areas of hydel reservoirs. However, action was taken to ensure early stabilisation of Raichur Units II (210 MW) which was commissioned in March 1986.

(b) No power project is scheduled for commissioning in Karnataka during 1986-87.

(c) and (d). During Seventh Five Year Plan, a capacity addition of 593.25 MW is envisaged for commissioning in Karnataka as per the Statement given below. Out of this, a capacity of 310 MW has already been commissioned.

Statement

Capacity Addition envisaged during the Seventh Five Year Plan in Karnataka

Name of the Project	Capacity (MW)	Seventh Plan benefits (MW)
1	2	3
Hydro		
1. Supa Dam	2 × 50	100*
2. Varahi	2 × 115 + 2 × 4.5	239

1	2	3
3. Ghatprabha	2 × 16	32
4. Mallapur	2 × 4.5	9
5. Madhur Branch Canal	1 × 1.5	1.5
6. Sirwar	1 × 1	1
7. Micro Hydel	1 × 0.75	0.75
		<hr/> 383.25 <hr/>

Thermal

1. Raichur Unit 2	210*
Total (Hydro + Thermal)	593.25

* Commissioned 1985-86.

BHEL contract for Rabigh Power Station in Saudi Arabia

1047. SHRIS. PALAKONDRAYUDU : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is fact that Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL) has won a contract for the management of operations and maintenance of the new Rabigh Power Station in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia; and

(b) if so, the details of the contract and the estimated worth/cost of the contract ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC ENTERPRISES IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. K.K. TEWARY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) BHEL has received an order from Saudi Consolidated Electric Company (SCECO)—West for deputation of 26 experts to assist them in the management of operation and maintenance of the new Rabigh Power Station in Saudi Arabia. The total value of the contract is Rs. 2.2 crores approximately.

New types of Jute Bags for Packing Cement

1048. **SHRIMATI MADHUREE SINGH** : Will the Minister of **INDUSTRY** be pleased to state :

(a) whether new types of jute bags for packing cement have been introduced;

(b) if so, the advantages thereof and extent of its use at present;

(c) whether the use of jute bags is optional or mandatory; and

(d) when the old bags will be completely done away with ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) :

(a) Yes, Sir. Government have recently introduced two new types of bags designated as (i) NCB Light Weight Jute Bags weighing 446 gms. and (ii) NCB Jute Synthetic Union Bags weighing 416 gms. for packing cement.

(b) The performance of new type of bags is expected to be better in terms of seepage, bursting and hooking compared to conventional jute bags, besides saving in jute consumption and the cost of packing. As these bags have been introduced only recently, the exact information regarding the extent of their use is not available.

(c) It is open for the cement factories to pack cement in conventional jute bags or the new types of bags for levy cement as mentioned above provided they meet with the prescribed ISI specifications.

(d) Since use of new types of bags has been introduced only recently, it is difficult to indicate as to whether and when the use of old bags would be done away with.

Supply of Mining Equipment for Second Mine Expansion Project of Neyveli Lignite Corporation

1049. **SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD** : Will the Minister of **ENERGY** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 3729 on 12 August,

1986 regarding report of Experts Team on Second Mine Expansion Project of Neyveli Lignite Corporation and state :

(a) whether the Rheinbraun Consultants of West Germany had not found the M.A.N. of West Germany and WMI to be entitled to participate in the tender bids because of their inexperience etc;

(b) whether the management of Neyveli Lignite Corporation had suggested to allow their participation only for the purpose of evaluation of total tenders;

(c) if so, the facts thereof and reasons for awarding further huge contracts of supplies of mining equipment to Neyveli Lignite Corporation in favour of the above said firms; and

(d) the action being proposed in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) to (d). Initially, the Rheinbraun Consulting had not recommended the inclusion of M.A.N. in the shortlist for the supply of Spreaders for this project, though for the earlier IInd Mine first stage, they had recommended the inclusion of M/s M.A.N. in the short list for Spreaders etc. Therefore, having looked into the range and variety of equipments and machineries for which the M.A.N. were recommended and had also supplied in the past and the fact that this very Rheinbraun Consulting had qualified M.A.N. for supply of more sophisticated equipments, like Bucket Wheel Excavator, the NLC decided to keep M.A.N. in the short-list to ensure competitive bidding and ultimately awarded the contract for Spreaders to M.A.N. whose final offer was the lowest evaluated and technically acceptable. Rheinbraun Consulting to whom NLC's evaluation report was sent for endorsement had also accepted NLC's decision to award the Contract to M.A.N./WMI. KFW, who were funding the foreign exchange for this project, also accepted this decision.

Drilling by ONGC in Andhra Pradesh

1050. **SHRI MANIK REDDY** : Will the Minister of **PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS** be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Oil and Natural Gas Commission has plans to start drilling at Komnugudem, Uadali, Tatipaka-2, Surasanayanam in Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the amount earmarked for the drilling works and probable date to start drilling ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) :

(a) and (b). ONGC has planned to start drilling at Kommugudem, Surasanayanam, Tatipaka-2 and Vadali during 1986-87. The estimated expenditure on drilling (excluding capital acquisition) during 1986-87 in Krishna Godavari basin onshore is Rs. 53 crores.

**Dispute on Quality of Rice in FCI
Godowns in Calcutta**

1051. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that rice is rotting in the godowns of Food Corporation of India in Calcutta (Kashipur) over a dispute whether the rice supplied is 'Fine' or 'Super Fine';

(b) how much of the rice in dispute has become unfit for human consumption; and

(c) whether Government propose to streamline their procedure of supplies in order to avoid such disputes and if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does Not arise.

(c) There is already a well laid procedure for issue of foodgrains.

**Expenditure on Rent of Building by
I.D.P.L.**

1052. DR B.L. SHAILESH : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state ;

(a) the monthly expenditure incurred by the Indian Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Ltd. on residential accommodation for its Delhi-based officers and on buildings hired by it for office and godown;

(b) the steps proposed to cut down this expenditure; and

(c) whether it is proposed to shift its offices to the plant site at Gurgaon and other places ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R.K. JAI-CHANDRA SINGH) : (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

**Digging of Wells to find out Oil Deposits
in West Bengal, Himalayan Foothills
and Ganga Valley etc.**

1053. SHRI R.P. DAS : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the sites in West Bengal, Himalayan foothills and Ganga Valley, Mahanadi and Andamans where digging of wells to find out oil deposits is in progress; and

(b) the results achieved so far ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : (a) Exploratory drilling is in progress in the States/basins as follows :

State/Basin	Name of site
2	
West Bengal	Bodra Deganga Domjure
Himalayan Foothills and Ganga Valley	Cheri (Himachal Pradesh) Madhubani (Bihar)

1	2
Mahanadi	—
Andaman Offshore	AN structure and Eastern Shelf

(b) The results will be known only after completion of drilling and testing of wells.

Complaints regarding Non-refund of Deposits against Andhra Pradesh Scooters Limited

1054. SHRI SODE RAMAIAH : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received complaints against Andhra Pradesh Scooters Limited regarding non-refund of deposits;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (c). Though there are some instances of delay in refunding the deposit money due to non-compliance of certain formalities stipulated by the company, no complaint of non-refund of deposit money by the company has been brought to the notice of the Government.

Setting up of Projects of Government Undertakings in West Bengal

1055. SHRI ATISH CHANDRA SINHA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received several representations from the State of West Bengal in regard to setting up certain projects of Government of India undertakings;

(b) whether Government are considering

setting up such units in the State, particularly in the 'no-district' zones;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the action being proposed to be taken to set up these units in the State to provide, *inter alia*, employment opportunities ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC ENTERPRISES IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. K.K. TEWARY) : (a) to (d). Information is being collected and a statement will be laid on the Table of the House.

Telephone System in Calcutta and Howrah

1056. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the almost defective telephone system at Calcutta and Howrah during this rainy season;

(b) if so, the number of telephones which went out of order and how many of them are still out of order; and

(c) the steps Government have taken to improve the situation as emergency measures ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) (i) Approximately 50,000 telephones were dead at the time of floods.

(ii) At present approximately 11,000 telephones are remaining out of order for more than 7 days.

(c) The steps taken as emergency measures are given in the statement below.

Statement***Steps taken to improve the situation as emergency measures***

1. Maintenance teams worked for long hours and often round the clock immediately after heavy rains and flooding of the city to locate and restore the cable faults with least possible delays.
2. All the resources at the disposal of this district were diverted for restoration of faulty telephone lines. All cable splicers and other staff from installation and planning sections were diverted for fault clearance jobs.
3. Close liaison was maintained with other utilities so that while repairing their own services they do not further damage the telephone cables which were in close proximity to those underground services.

Direct Dialling Facility from NOIDA

1057. SHRI RAM PUJAN PATEL : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether residents of Bahadurgarh and Faridabad can make direct call to Delhi/New Delhi as these areas are considered as National Capital Region areas;

(b) whether district Ghaziabad is also connected with Delhi/New Delhi in respect of direct dialling;

(c) if so, the reasons why the NOIDA area of district Ghaziabad is not connected with Delhi/New Delhi exchange as in the case of Bahadurgarh/Faridabad/Ghaziabad etc;

(d) whether Government propose to make this facility available to the residents of NOIDA also in the near future;

(e) if so, when; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) Residents of Faridabad and Bahadurgarh have direct dialling facility with Delhi, being part of the erstwhile Delhi Telephone District and not because of National Capital Region considerations.

(b) Subscribers of Ghaziabad exchanges can only directly dial telephones of Delhi Telephone System.

(c) NOIDA subscribers can also directly dial telephones in Delhi Telephone System.

(d) to (f). Does not arise in view of reply to part (c).

Expansion and Development of Telephone Exchanges in Andhra Pradesh

1058. SHRI KATURI NARAYANA SWAMY : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have taken any steps for the expansion and development of telephone exchanges in Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Expansion of telephone system in Andhra Pradesh by opening new exchanges as well as by extending the capacity of existing exchanges has been planned as follows in the 7th Five Year Plan period :

Expansions Planned (in number of lines)	
(i) Hyderabad	51,700
(ii) Vijayawad	10,900
(iii) Other towns in Andhra Pradesh	74,400
Total	1,37,000

Execution of Pending Power Projects

1059. SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the name and location of various major Power Projects that were initially scheduled to have been executed and commissioned during the Sixth Plan period or earlier but remained pending;

(b) the initial projected cost of each of such projects, the amount spent till the end of the Sixth Plan and the revised estimates of each along with the targeted date of completion and commissioning;

(c) the projected benefits accruing from each such project; and

(d) if the targeted objects of any of the projects were revised subsequent to the start of the work on such projects, the reasons therefor and time and cost escalations as a result of such revisions ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) to (c). Information is given in the statement below.

(d) Construction of a Power project is a complex task involving matching of a wide variety of inputs. It is not practicable to quantify the time and cost escalations, in the projects, purely as a result of revision of the targetted objects of the projects.

The main reasons for time and cost escalations in the power projects are due to difficulties in land acquisition, delay in supply and non sequential supply of equipment, paucity of funds, shortage of construction material, escalation in prices and increase in cost of equipment/material, labour problems, unexpected geological conditions encountered at the sites and design and engineering problems.

Statement

Details of Power Projects which slipped from the Sixth Five Year Plan with original cost and revised cost and targeted date of commissioning

Sl.No.	Name of the Project/ Location	Projected installed Capacity (MW)	Capacity slipped from Sixth Five Year Plan (MW)	Likely date of commissioning of slipped units	Initial cost/ revised cost Estimate (Rs. in crores)	Amounts spent till end of Sixth Five Year Plan (Rs. in crores)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Western Yamuna Canal (Haryana)	6 × 8	48	16 MW commissioned and balance in 1986-87 and 1987-88	45.72 85.22	60.33
2.	Pasipat Stage-II (Haryana)	2 × 110	220	One unit commissioned in Nov. '85 and second unit expected in Nov. '86	72.93 170.00	132.73
3.	Andhra HEP (H.P.)	3 × 5.65	16.95	1986-87	9.74 36.00	16.89

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
4. Rongtong HEP (H.P.)		4 × 0.5	2.0	1986-87	$\frac{2.81}{13.94}$	7.18
5. Mahi Bajaj Sagar HEP (Rajasthan)		2 × 25 + 2 × 45	140	2 × 25 MW commissioned and rest to be commissioned in 1988-89 and 1989-90	$\frac{59.37}{163.94}$	92.28
6. Mukerian HEP (Punjab)		6 × 15	45	1987-88	$\frac{115.58}{341.42}$	120.62
7. Anandpur Sahib HEP (Punjab)		4 × 33.5	134	Commissioned	$\frac{80.73}{174.46}$	189.52
8. Anpara 'A' (3 units) (U.P.)		3 × 210	630	Unit-I commissioned in March '86 Unit-II and III to be commissioned in 1986-87 and 1987-88	$\frac{227.10}{657.74}$	458.62
9. Tanda TPS (4 units) (U.P.)		4 × 110	440	Unit-I and II to be commis- sioned in 1987-88 and Unit-III and IV in 1988-89	$\frac{159.25}{390.00}$	185.01
10. Ukai LBC (Gujarat)		2 × 2.5	5	1986-87 and 1987-88	$\frac{3.05}{4.595}$	1.99

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
11. Kadna PSS (Gujarat)		2 × 60	120	1987-88	$\frac{24.58^*}{86.36}$	46.83
12. Wanakbori TPS (Gujarat)		3 × 210	210	Commissioned in March, 1986	$\frac{206.79}{350.59}$	239.81
13. Bhira Tail Race HEP (Mah.)		2 × 40	80	1986-87 and 1987-88	$\frac{8.40}{63.14}$	40.08
14. Tillari HEP (Maharashtra)		1 × 60	60	Commissioned	$\frac{8.16}{55.24}$	85.03
15. Pench HEP (M.P./Maharashtra)		2 × 80	160	Unit-I commissioned Unit-II to be commissioned in 1986-87	$\frac{28.28}{143.53}$	102.55
16. Chandrapur Stage-II Unit-III (Maharashtra)		2 × 210	210	Commissioned in May, 1986	$\frac{128.56}{292.76}$	218.56
17. Korba West Stage-II (M.P.)		2 × 210	210	Commissioned in March, 1986	$\frac{129.94}{290.90}$	217.80
18. Balimela DPH (A.P.)		2 × 30	60	1987-88 and 1988-89	$\frac{17.77}{31.15}$	15.99

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
19. Kalinadi Stage-I HEP (Karnataka)		$5 \times 135 + 2 \times 50$	100	Commissioned	$\frac{126.63}{238.46}$	306.98
20. Raichur TPS (Karnataka)		2×210	210	Commissioned in March, 1986	$\frac{159.25}{320.00}$	260.38
21. Idamalayar HEP (Kerala)		2×37.5	75	Unit-I Rotated Unit-II to be commissioned in 1986-87	$\frac{23.40}{88.97}$	69.10
22. Kakkad HEP (Kerala)		2×25	50	1988-89	$\frac{18.60}{41.17}$	11.09
23. Kadanpari PSS (Tamil Nadu)		4×100	400	1987-88 and 1988-89	$\frac{35.12}{164.50}$	118.66
24. Servalar HEP (Tamil Nadu)		1×20	20	Commissioned	$\frac{8.35}{30.43}$	35.68
25. Neyveli Second Mine Cut (two units) (Tamil Nadu)		3×210	420	Unit-I commissioned in March, 1986. Unit-2 expected 1987-88	$\frac{213.96}{454.15}$	389.66
26. Upper Kolab HEP (Orissa)		3×80	240	1986-87 and 1987-88	$\frac{58.90}{100.04}$	123.98
27. Rengali HEP (Orissa)		2×50	100	Commissioned	$\frac{57.92}{170.24}$	105.20

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
28.	Panipat Stage-IV (Bihar)	2 × 110	110	Commissioned in March, 1986	$\frac{42.00}{155.00}$	132.83
29.	Mazaffarpur TPS (Bihar)	2 × 110	110	Commissioned in March, 1986	$\frac{84.35}{203.00}$	161.83
30.	Bokaro 'B' (Bihar)	210	210	Commissioned in March, 1986	$\frac{69.76}{206.4}$	138.46
31.	Raman Stage-II (West Bengal)	4 × 12.5	50	1988-89 and 1989-90	$\frac{24.20}{55.16}$	18.58
32.	Kolaghat TPS (West Bengal)	3 × 210	420	Unit-II Commissioned in 1985-86. Unit-I expected 1987-88	$\frac{115.59}{350.00}$	299.07
33.	Durgapur DPL (West Bengal)	110	110	Commissioned 1985-86	$\frac{48.42}{94.29}$	68.48
34.	Panchet Hill HEP (W.B.)	1 × 40	40	1987-88	$\frac{16.83}{47.57}$	3.83
35.	Farakka STPP (West Bengal)	3 × 210	210	Commissioned in Jan., 1986	$\frac{290.60}{603.33}$	369.65

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
36.	Lower Borpani HEP (Assam)	1 × 50	50	1988-89	$\frac{36.36}{76.50}$	48.53
37.	Bongaigaon TPS St. II (Assam)	2 × 60	60	Commissioned June '86	$\frac{47.16}{90.12}$	63.30
38.	Chandrapur Ext. TPS (Assam)	30	30	1987-88	$\frac{12.92}{29.92}$	10.97
39.	Dribu HEP (Nagaland)	$1 \times 0.75 + 1 \times 0.25$	1	1986-87	$\frac{0.65}{3.50}$	1.50
40.	Kopili	$2 \times 25 + 2 \times 50$	100	1986-87	$\frac{56.77}{187.65}$	154.49

*Combined figure for Kabana PSS (2 × 60 MW) and Kadana PSS Extn. (2 × 60 MW)

**Availability of Khadi Gramodyog Vastras
through Central Government Employees
Consumer Cooperative Society Ltd.,
New Delhi**

1060. SHRI HAFIZ MOHD. SIDDIQ
Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased
state :

(a) whether Khadi Gramodyog Bhawan
in Connaught Place, New Delhi is unable
to cope up with the rush;

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal
to extend the availability of khadi
gramodyog vastras through the Central
Government Employees Consumer Coopera-
tive Society Ltd., New Delhi; and

(c) if not, the reasons thereof and
measures proposed to be taken to cope up
with the rush ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL
DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY
OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNA-
CHALAM) : (a) No, Sir. During the
special rebate period, extra hands are
employed to cope with the rush.

(b) There is no such proposal. Apart
from Khadi Gramodyog Bhavan there are
other sales outlets in New Delhi and there
is also "Gram Shilpi" near Khadi
Gramodyog Bhavan in Connaught Place,
New Delhi.

(c) Does not arise.

**Outgo of Foreign Exchange on Import
of Auto Shock Absorbers**

1061. DR. CHINTA MOHAN : Will
the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to
state :

(a) whether there is avoidable outgo of
scarce foreign exchange in import of items
such as auto shock absorbers;

(b) whether auto shock absorbers can
be manufactured in the country to meet the
demand using our vast computer knowledge
and installed capacity; and

(c) the reasons for unprecedented and

sudden increase in demand for improted
auto shock absorbers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL
DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY
OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNA-
CHALAM) : (a) to (c). Automobile
Shockabsorber manufacturers in the country
have been, by and large, meeting the require-
ment of vehicle manufacturers as well as
spares market. However, there has been
substantial increase in the demand for this
item, both in terms of quantity and
quality, because of the increase in the
production of various categories of vehicles.
With a view to meentig the increased
demand and specifications of the new ranges
of vehicles, Government has allowed import
of technology by both existing as well as
new manufacturers for modernisation and
induction of new technology. A limited
quantity of this item has been permitted
for import by the manufacturers of new
ranges of vehicles under an approved phased
manufacturing programme.

**Applications for Telephone Connections
in Kuthlathode Telephone Exchange
in Kerala**

1062. SHRI VAKKOM PURUSHOTHA-
MAN : Will the Minister of COMMUNICA-
TIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of applications for
telephone connections in Kuthiathode
Telephone Exchange in Kerala pending so
far; and

(b) the earliest date by which the
connections can be given to the applicants ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS
(SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a)
As on 30.9.1986 the number of telephone
connections pending in Kuthiathode
telephone exchange is 72.

(b) The connections can be given after
installation of 200 lines MAX-II type
exchange which is expected in 1988-89.

**Central Investment in Industries in
Kerala**

1063. SHRI K. MOHANDAS : Will
the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to
state :

(a) the total central investment in industries made so far in Kerala;

(b) the State-wise break-up of central investment in the industrial sector;

(c) whether it is a fact that the central investment in the industrial sector in Kerala is far below national average; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) and (b). A statement showing the quantum of investment in terms of Gross Block in different States including Kerala at the end of March, 1985 is given below.

(c) and (d). No discrimination or favour is shown to any individual State while taking decisions on central investment in industrial projects. The establishment of industries at a particular location is guided by the considerations of techno-economic feasibility, availability of raw materials infrastructure, etc.

¶ Statement

Distribution of Gross Block

Sl. No.	Name of State/ Union Territory	Gross Block (Rs. in crores) 1984-85
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	3983.12
2.	Assam	2451.15
3.	Bihar	5833.77
4.	Gujarat	1771.77
5.	Haryana	411.80
6.	Himachal Pradesh	211.05
7.	Jammu and Kashmir	48.28

1	2	3
8.	Karnataka	1327.53
9.	Kerala	831.22
10.	Madhya Pradesh	5396.12
11.	Maharashtra	7601.81
12.	Manipur	131.32
13.	Meghalaya	1.89
14.	Nagaland	72.98
15.	Orissa	2997.74
16.	Punjab	563.62
17.	Rajasthan	647.62
18.	Tamilnadu	2548.86
19.	Tripura	93.38
20.	Uttar Pradesh	2532.77
21.	West Bengal	3345.37
22.	Andaman and Nicobar	6.21
23.	Chandigarh	3.52
24.	Delhi	1238.83
25.	Goa	17.79
26.	Pondicherry	7.66
27.	Others and Unallocated	3246.09
Total		47323.27

Retirement Age of Supreme Court and High Court Judges

1064. SHRI V.N. GADGIL : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to refer to the reply to Unstarred Question No. 414 on 25th February, 1986 regarding retirement age of Supreme Court and High Court Judges and state :

(a) whether Government have since considered the matter; and

(b) if so, the decision taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ) : (a) and (b). While deciding large-scale improvement in the Service Conditions of Supreme Court and High Court Judges, the question of increasing their retirement age was not agreed to and the decision was deferred.

[Translation]

Development of Bio-Gas Plants in Gujarat

1065. SHRIMATI PATEL RAMABEN RAMJIBHAI MAVANI : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have announced any new programme for development, promotion, research and establishment of bio-gas plants and to provide more financial assistance for the purpose and whether any steps have been taken in this regard;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of bio-gas plants in Gujarat as on 30th December, 1981 and the number of plants installed there during 1st January, 1982 to 30th September, 1986 and the amount spent on them;

(d) the number of bio-gas plants proposed to be installed during 1986-87 and 1987-88 in Gujarat and other parts of the country; and

(e) whether Government propose to promote bio-gas plants and to set up bio-gas plants in each and every home keeping in view the shortage of power and repeated power failures in the country; if so, the details thereof and how it will be implemented.

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) and (b). The Department of Non-Conventional Energy Sources has taken up a coordinated and multi-disciplinary project on biogas research and development during the last two years.

A budget outlay of Rs. 150.00 lakhs has been provided for the purpose for 1986-87. About 40 research institutions have been sanctioned projects on various aspects of biogas technology, such as alternative building materials, alternative feedstocks, development of cheaper/models, microbiology of fermentation, etc.

A National Project for Biogas Development (NPBD), which caters to family based biogas plants, is being continued during 1986-87 and the budget estimates have been increased recently from Rs. 59.00 crores to Rs. 62.50 crores. Separately, a programme for setting up community and institutional biogas plants is also being implemented, for which the budget estimates have been increased from Rs. 3.5 crores to Rs. 4.27 crores for 1986-87.

(c) The number of biogas plants installed in Gujarat during different years is as under :

Year	No. of biogas plants set up
1981-82	1793
1982-83 to 1985-86	23211
1986-87 (upto Sept., 1986)	4761

A total sum of Rs. 8.6 crores has been sanctioned to the State Government of Gujarat during 1981-82 to 1986-87 (upto September, 1986) under the NPBD.

(d) Under NPBD, State-wise targets are fixed on annual basis. 5000 biogas plants are proposed to be installed in the State of Gujarat during 1986-87. The State Government of Gujarat has requested for enhancement of this target which is under consideration. The national target for 1986-87 is 1.5 lakh plants.

(e) The Government is promoting biogas plants on a large scale to supplement both fuel and manure requirement wherever feasible and to the extent possible subject to

the financial resources made available for the purpose.

A target of 5.5 lakh family biogas plants has been fixed for the Seventh Plan period. The programme is being implemented by State Governments, State Corporate bodies, Khadi and Village Industries Commission and Voluntary Organisations etc.

[English]

Quantity of Gas struck in Krishna-Godavari Basin and Price asked for by ONGC

1066. SHRI D.N. REDDY :
SHRI SRIHARI RAO :

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity of gas struck in the Krishna-Godavari basin and its price asked for by Oil and Natural Gas Commission;

(b) whether there are any difficulties in commissioning this plant to the full extent; and

(c) if so, the details therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : (a) Oil and Natural Gas Commission have struck gas wells at Narsapur/Razol in the Krishna-Godavari basin during the testing period. Initially, it is expected to produce gas @ 1.5 lakh cubic meters per day. The price is to be negotiated by ONGC on a provisional basis as government are also considering the question of fixation of prices.

(b) and (c). ONGC are in the process of identifying suitable consumers for the gas being produced during extended production testing of the onshore wells, which is required for assessing the potential of the gas reserves so as to facilitate long term commitments.

Import of D.M.T. Plant by Bombay Dyeing and Manufacturing Co. Ltd.

1067. SHRI KAMLA PRASAD RAWAT :
SHRI MANIK REDDY :
SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY :
SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that use of D.M.T. as raw material for production of polyester has become obsolete with the entry of P.T.A.; and

(b) if so, the reasons for allowing increase in D.M.T. production with the import of second hand D.M.T. plant by Bombay Dyeing and Manufacturing Company Limited ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R.K. JAI-CHANDRA SINGH) : (a) D.M.T. and P.T.A. are alternative raw materials for manufacture of Polyester though PTA is a later entrant. It is, therefore, not correct to say that DMT has become obsolete with the entry of PTA. Besides the production of PTA is yet to be established in the country.

(b) Import of second hand DMT plant by M/s. Bombay Dyeing and Manufacturing Company Ltd. was permitted as per the policy prevalent at the time of import.

Use of Religious Places for Election Propaganda

1068. DR. A.K. PATEL :
SHRI C. JANGA REDDY :

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 5839 on 8 April, 1986 regarding ban on use of religious places for election propaganda and state :

(a) the steps taken by Government to implement recommendation of the Election Commission for amendment of the Representation of the People Act, 1951 in this regard; and

(b) whether a recommendation to this effect was also made at the meeting of the Standing Committee of National Integration Council in last August ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ) : (a) The recommendation regarding ban on use of religious places for election propaganda forms part of the set of recommendations made by the Election Commission on electoral

reforms and is still under consideration. After completion of detailed examination and formulation of preliminary views, Government would also hold consultation with political parties before arriving at final decisions.

(b) Yes, Sir.

Revision of Drug Policy

1069. SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO :
DR. CHINTA MOHAN :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to revise the existing drug policy of Government to make it pragmatic and rational one;

(b) if so, by when; and

(c) the steps being taken to make the drugs cheaper for the common man ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R.K. JAI-CHANDRA SINGH) : (a) to (c). The matter is under active consideration of the Government.

Procurement of Life Saving Drugs

1070. SHRI NARSING SURYA-WANSHI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state the steps taken so far or proposed to be taken to procure life-saving drugs which are not readily available in India ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R.K. JAI-CHANDRA SINGH) : The Department of Chemicals monitors the availability of Essential and Life Saving medicines in the country on the basis of periodical reports received from the State Drug Controllers and the Zonal Offices of Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation. As and when reports on shortages of essential drugs are received, necessary remedial action is taken.

Cooperatisation of Coir Industry

1071. SHRI T. BASHEER : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have any centrally sponsored scheme for the cooperation of the coir industry in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the amount sanctioned to Kerala for this purpose during 1985-86 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The centrally sponsored scheme for the cooperativisation of coir industry which is being implemented from the Sixth Plan period envisages financial assistance to the State Governments in the form of loan and grant on matching basis. The assistance provided to the members of coir cooperative societies and societies themselves include share capital assistance for the formation of new societies and revitalisation of dormant societies, managerial subsidy for appointment of paid Secretary/Business Manager in the primary coir cooperatives, assistance for purchase/modernisation/renovation of equipments, looms etc., by the primary coir cooperatives and marketing assistance for opening of sales outlets for the sale of coir and coir products by the apex coir cooperative societies.

(c) Rs. 25.75 lakhs.

Inflationary Trends in Essential Commodities

1072. SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether consumer price inflation in the country had any downward trend during the current year; and

(b) the commodity-wise inflationary trends in the price situation of essential commodities ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) The information is furnished in the statement given below.

Statement

Retail Prices of selected commodities at selected centres in the terminal week of March, 1986 and in the week-ending 17.10.1986

Retail Prices (in Rs.) (Price in Rs.)

Commodity	Unit	Bombay		Madras		Calcutta		Delhi	
		terminal week of march, 86	week-ending 17.10.86	terminal week of March, 86	week-ending 17.10.86	terminal week of March, 86	week-ending 3.10.86	terminal week of March, 86	week-ending 17.10.86
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Rice (Coarse)	Kg.	3.80	4.00	3.60	3.60	4.00	NQ	4.00	4.50
Wheat (Red)	Kg.	2.40	2.70	2.40	2.50	2.19 (FP)	2 24 (FP)	2.30	2.30
Jowar	Kg.	2.70	2.60	2.20	2.00	2.40	2.60	2.30	2.50
Bajra	Kg.	3.20	3.30	2.30	1.90	NQ	NQ	2.75	2.80
Gram	Kg.	8.00	6.50	7.00	5.50	7.50	7.25	6.60	5.25
Arhar	Kg.	6.60	8.50	7.30	9.20	7.00	8.20	6.25	7.50
Moong	Kg.	8.00	6.60	7.00	5.80	8.00	7.50	7.50	7.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Masoor	Kg.	7.20	7.40	6.80	7.00	7.00	7.40	7.00	7.00
Urad	Kg.	8.00	8.40	7.20	7.20	7.00	7.00	8.00	8.20
Milk (Buffalo)	Litre	7.00	7.50	5.00	5.00	6.00	6.00	5.00	5.00
Potatoes	Kg.	3.00	4.50	2.00	3.20	2.40	3.50	3.00	5.00
Onions	Kg.	2.50	3.00	1.30	2.50	2.00	3.60	2.50	3.50
Tea leaves	Kg.	28.00	36.00	17.00 ($\frac{1}{2}$ Kg.)	18.50 ($\frac{1}{2}$ Kg.)	40.00	40.00	36.00	36.00
Sugar	Kg.	7.00	6.20	6.40	5.80	6.80	6.80	7.00	7.00
Gur	Kg.	NQ	NQ	4.00	5.00	4.50	5.50	4.60	5.50
Common salt	Kg.	0.80	1.00	0.60	0.60	NQ	NQ	0.60	0.60
Atta	Kg.	3.00	NQ	2.50	2.60	2.80	2.80	3.00	3.20
Meat (mutton)	Kg.	30.00	30.00	34.00	34.00	34.00	38.00	28.00	28.00
Fish	Kg.	NA	14.00	17.00	17.00	40.00	40.00	18.00	22.00
Groundnut Oil	Kg.	17.00	27.00	15.50	23.00	23.00	NQ	21.00	NA
Mustard Oil	Kg.	18.00	20.00	19.00	23.00	15.00	20.00	14.00	19.00
Gingelly Oil	Kg.	20.00	24.00	17.00	21.00	19.00	20.00	21.00	24.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Coconut Oil	Kg.	24.00	34.00	24.00	36.00	30.00	38.00	28.00	36.00
Vanaspati	Kg.	20.00	21.00	20.00	22.00	24.10	23.95	19.00	19.50
Kerosene Oil	Litre	2.17	2.17	2.25	2.25	NQ	NQ	2.25	2.25
Soft coke	40 Kg.	NQ	NQ	NQ	NQ	34.00	34.00	27.31	27.31
Red Chillies	Kg.	14.00	12.00	13.00	8.00	17.00	13.00	24.00	18.00
Matches	per box	0.30	0.30	0.23	0.21	0.19	0.19	0.25	0.30
Washing Soap	$\frac{1}{2}$ bar	3.25	3.50	3.50	3.80	3.50	3.50	NQ	NQ
Long Cloth	Metre	10.00	12.00	NQ	NQ	NQ	NQ	14.20	16.70
Dhoti	piece	80.00	NQ	NQ	NQ	NQ	NQ	88.30	88.30
Saree	piece	55.00	NQ	NQ	NQ	NQ	NQ	57.40	57.40

FP—Fair Price

* For Calcutta the latest week available is 3.10.1986.

NQ—Note Quoted

Note : To some extent the centre to centre variation in Retail Prices for the same commodity may be attributed to difference in quality.

NA—Note Available

Production of Edible Oils

1073. **SHRI BHARAT KUMAR ODEDRA :**
SHRI MURLI DEORA :

Will the Minister of **FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES** be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have any plan to increase the production of edible oils in the country;

(b) if so, details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that the country could not reach the target as per schedule; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) and (b). Government has taken a number of measures to increase the production of oilseeds and oils. The important measures taken are :

1. Implementation of the National Oilseeds Development Project, covering special project on groundnut, rapeseed/mustard, soyabean and sunflower besides intensive development work on other oilseeds.
2. State level cooperative oilseeds growers' federation have been formed in some States under the project for restructuring of Edible Oils and Oilseeds production and Marketing through National Dairy Development Board.
3. Better incentive to producers through fixation of minimum support prices for oilseeds at higher levels.
4. Intensification of research efforts for increasing the productivity of oilseeds. A technology Mission on oilseeds has been set up.
5. Increase in area under non-traditional oilseed crop like

soyabean and sunflower and exploitation of oilseeds of tree and forest origin, rice bran etc.

6. Setting up of necessary processing and infrastructural facilities to keep pace with the production programme of oilseeds.

7. Fiscal incentives for increased use of non-conventional oils by the vanaspati industry, exemption from excise duty in respect of refined rice bran, cottonseed and soyabean oils meant for direct human consumption and also for refined solvent extracted oil.

(c) The target and actual production of oilseeds during 1984-85 and 1985-86 is as under :

(Qty. in Lakh tonne)		
Year	Target	Production achieved
1984-85	130.00	129.5
1985-86	136.00	111.5

(d) The target could not be achieved due to drought conditions.

Extraction of Edible Oil from Cotton Seeds

1074. **SHRI UTTAM RATHOD :** Will the Minister of **FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES** be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have studied the feasibility of extracting edible oil from cotton seeds; and

(b) if so, the findings of the study so made ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) No specific study regarding feasibility of extracting edible oils from cottonseed has been made by the Government. However, the matter has been dealt

with in general in the Report of the Study Group on a Long Term Edible Oils Plan, 1978 made by the then Ministry of Commerce, Civil Supplies and Cooperation, Government of India and also in the Report of the Sub Group on Edible Oils for the Seventh Five Year Plan (1985-90) made by the Ministry of Food and Civil Supplies, Government of India in December 1984.

(b) Some of the recommendations made in these reports are regarding setting up of new cottonseed processing units in cotton producing areas, cooperatives being given the first preference, modernisation of the vegetable oil industry including cottonseed processing industry, measures to minimise the use of cottonseed as cattle feed, cash assistance on export of cottonseed extractions, formulation of a productivity linked export policy on a long term basis, excise relief on use of solvent extract oils for direct human consumption, etc.

Electrification of Villages

1075. SHRI V. TULSIRAM : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether rural electrification is one of the 20 Point Programmes of the Government of India;

(b) if so, the number of villages so far electrified under this programme in Andhra Pradesh as on 30 September, 1986; and

(c) how many villages are expected to be electrified in Andhra Pradesh by the end of the Seventh Plan period ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Out of a total of 27,221 villages as per 1971 census, 23,851 villages were electrified till 30.9.1986 in the State of Andhra Pradesh.

(c) By the end of Seventh Plan period, all the villages are expected to be electrified in Andhra Pradesh.

New Coal bearing areas

1076. SHRI

SOMNATH

CHATTERJEE : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the number of new coal bearing areas located in the country since the nationalisation of the coal mines;

(b) what are such locations; and

(c) the steps taken for working such areas ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) and (b). 1,55,901 m. tes. of coal reserves were estimated by Geological Survey of India (upto June, 1985) as against 82,771 m. tes. of coal reserves estimated in 1975. Regional and detailed exploration taken up by Geological Survey of India has revealed sizeable coal reserves in the areas of Talcher, Ib river etc. Regional exploration of coal during the field session 1985-86 (upto June, 86) has established existence of coal in Ib-river, Talcher, Sohagpur, Ramkola, Tatapani, North Raigarh, Mand Raigarh, Raniganj, Birbhum, East Bokaro, Godavari valley etc.

(c) Keeping in view the demand of coal in various sectors, areas are delineated for detailed exploration and new projects are formulated and sanctioned. Apart from this, reorganisation proposals are also taken up and funds provided in the plan budget for the projects to be sanctioned.

Mass Retrenchment of Staff in Postal Services

1077. SHRI N. DENNIS : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government are contemplating mass retrenchment of staff in postal services; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

Setting up of Aromatic Plant at Bombay Refinery by Bharat Petroleum Corporation

1078. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Bharat Petroleum Corporation has decided to set up an aromatic plant at the Bombay Refinery with an investment of around Rs. 400 crores; and

(b) if so, whether Government would consider shifting the project outside Bombay to any other backward district of Maharashtra considering the environmental problems in Bombay, particularly in Chembur-Trombay region where the refinery is situated ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) :

(a) and (b). A project for production of aromatics is already under operation at the refinery site of Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd. (BPCL) in Bombay. BPCL have also submitted for Government approval a proposal for optimisation of production of aromatics.

Survey regarding Petroleum and Natural Gas Resources in Arabian Sea

1079. SHRI G. DEVARAYA NAIK : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have conducted any survey to find out petroleum and natural gas resources in Arabian Sea towards South; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. In Kerala-Konkan-Lakshdweep basin the following surveys have been conducted so far :

Seismic Surveys	—	45000 LKM
Magnetic Survey	—	39400 LKM
Gravity Survey	—	22800 LKM

[Translation]

Allotment of Petrol Pumps to Harijans and Adivasis in Chambal, Madhya Pradesh

1080. SHRI KAMMODI LAL JATAV : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of petrol pumps allotted to Scheduled Castes and Adivasis in Chambal Division of Madhya Pradesh during 1980 to 1985; and

(b) whether the quota of Scheduled Castes and Adivasis is being further enhanced and if so, by what time ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : (a) Two retail outlets have been allotted under the SC/ST category in Chambal Division of Madhya Pradesh between 1980 and 1985.

(b) The prescribed reservation of 25% in respect of SC/ST is being continued.

Telephone and Telegraph Services in Azamgarh

1081. SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether communication facilities in Azamgarh, Gorakhpur, Basti, Deoria, Jaunpur and Ghazipur district of Uttar Pradesh are inadequate;

(b) whether despite the sound of buzzer, no response to calls made from any corner of Azamgarh is evoked from the main Telephone Exchange of Azamgarh; and

(c) the steps being taken or being contemplated by the Government to improve the telephone and telegraph services in Azamgarh ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS
(SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) :**

(a) No. Sir; Communication facilities in Azamgarh, Gorakhpur, Basti, Deoria, Jaunpur and Ghazipur district of Uttar Pradesh are quite adequate.

(b) No Sir; Due attention is paid to calls received in Main Exchange Azamgarh from Public Call offices and Small Automatic exchanges parented to this exchange.

(c) Every possible effort is made to improve further telephone and telegraph services at Azamgarh. Some of the important remedial action being taken are given in the statement below.

Statement

- (i) Ensure proper attention in Azamgarh exchange to calls from all 26 Small Automatic Exchanges and 82 Long distance public telephones (LDPTs).
- (ii) There is a proposal to connect Azamgarh, Deoria, Jaunpur and Ghazipur with Varanasi Trunk Automatic exchange (TAX and Basti with Lucknow TAX) through microwave links after the commissioning of these TAXs and Microwave systems.
- (iii) Providing underground cables in thickly populated areas so as to minimise outdoor faults.
- (iv) Proper fitting of DPs and subscriber offices.
- (v) Periodical checks of indoor equipment.
- (vi) Frequent visit/inspections and

observation of performance of these systems.

- (vii) Telegraph service at Azamgarh is satisfactory as one SFT port (terminal) is already available in Varanasi.

[English]

Shortage of Energy

1082. SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY :
Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that a number of States are starved of energy;

(b) the present total requirements of energy of each State;

(c) how much energy is available for use in each State; and

(d) the steps being taken by Government to meet the shortage of energy in each State ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE
MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI
SUSHILA ROHTAGI) :** (a) to (c). A Statement giving the requirement and availability of power in various States during the month of October 1986 is given in the statement below.

(d) The steps taken to improve the supply of power include expediting commissioning of new capacity, better utilisation of existing capacity, implementing short gestation projects, reducing transmission and distribution losses, implementation of energy conservation and demand management measures and arranging transfer of energy from surplus to deficit States.

Statement***Actual Power Supply Position for October, 1986***

(All figures in MU Net)

Region/State/System	October, 1986			
	Requirement	Availability	Shortage	(%)
Northern Region				
Chandigarh	34	32	2	5.9
Delhi	465	465	0	.0
Haryana	505	427	78	15.4
Himachal Pradesh	79	79	0	.0
Jammu and Kashmir	169	136	33	19.5
Punjab incl. NFF	901	898	3	.3
Rajasthan	640	569	71	11.1
Uttar Pradesh	1575	1376	199	12.6
Western Region				
Gujarat	1450	1381	69	4.8
M.P.	1123	1123	0	.0
Maharashtra incl. Goa	2540	2449	91	3.6
Southern Region				
Andhra Pradesh	1314	1314	0	.0
Karnataka	1164	900	264	22.7
Kerala	467	467	0	.0
Tamil Nadu	1307	1249	58	4.4
Eastern Region				
Bihar	405	280	125	30.9
D.V.C.	619	512	107	17.3
Orissa	554	461	93	26.8
West Bengal	723	622	101	14.0
N. Eastern Region				
	107	163	7	4.1
All India	16204	14903	1301	8.0

Holding of Stocks in Salt Factories

1083. SHRI BANWARI LAL BAIRWA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that most of the organised salt works (factories) have been forced to hold more than 50 per cent of their production as stocks, due to the reasons of sluggish domestic offtake, declining exports and unremunerative product costs; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to save the industry from crisis ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) The stock position in Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Orissa, West Bengal, Karnataka, Maharashtra and to a large extent in Rajasthan is normal. The stocks have been comparatively high during the years 1985 and 1986 in Gujarat. This is due to abnormally high production during the years 1985 and 1986. The domestic consumption of salt has been on increase during 1986 as compared to the previous years.

(b) The target of production for the year 1986 was reduced to 80 lakh tonnes against the target of 85 lakh tonnes fixed during the year 1985. The State Trading Corporation has been requested to explore the possibilities of increasing exports.

Amount Due from Metropolitan Cities to National Thermal Power Corporation

1084. SHRIMATI BIBHA GHOSH GOSWAMI : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the amounts due from the metropolitan cities of Calcutta, Bombay and Madras electric supply undertakings, to be recovered by the National Thermal Power Corporation, city-wise details;

(b) the efforts made to recover the amount;

(c) the amounts so far recovered city-wise; and

(d) the amounts to be recovered from each city till now ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) to (d). Information with regard to the dues of the National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) from the State Electricity Boards (SEBs) located at the metropolitan cities of Calcutta, Bombay and Madras, the amounts recovered during April-October, 1986 and outstandings as on 31.10.1986, organisation-wise, is as follows :

(Rs. in crores)

	Amounts outstanding as on 31.10.1986	Amounts recovered from April, 1986 to October, 1986
West Bengal SEB	1.02	0.48
Maharashtra SEB	10.05	27.54
Tamil Nadu SEB	4.66	13.72

The NTPC are actively pursuing the recovery of their dues with the State Electricity Boards concerned; the matter is also being followed up at Government level to facilitate early realization of outstanding amounts.

Tehri Dam

1085. SHRI DINESH SINGH : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether some ecologists and scientists have again written to Government that the Tehri Dam, under construction, is unsafe; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) and (b). It

has been represented that the Tehri project site is located in a seismic zone. A committee of experts has recently reviewed the matter and has concluded that adequate data and studies have been made to arrive at a safe and economic engineering structure and adequate technical expertise is available to deal with the design and construction of the Tehri dam project.

Harnessing of Wind Power

1086. SHRIMATI USHA CHOUDHARI :
Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the steps taken to construct wind mills from locally available materials like bamboo and wood to harness wind power and make it attractive and acceptable for drinking water, live stock, irrigation etc.;

(b) whether models, pamphlets etc. and various contraptions for producing wind power are available at subsidised price and if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any study has been done of various places in the States where viable wind velocity is available and if so, the relevant details; and

(d) whether necessary literature drawings and blueprints, assistance will be given to the people on demand to make utilisation of wind power a vibrant reality ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) and (b). Several designs of low cost wind mills fabricated from locally available materials have been developed in the country. One such low cost wind mill unit called "Poghil" has been developed at Murugappa Chettiar Research Centre, Madras, Tamil Nadu. The wind mill made from locally available materials such as wood, bamboo, jute and canvas fabric etc. has been taken up for field testing in the Ramanathapuram district of Tamil Nadu. 50 such units have been provided to beneficiaries at a subsidised price on a trial basis. Pamphlets in local language have also been brought out.

(c) Yes, Madam. A Handbook on Wind Energy Data for India has been published by the Department of Non-

conventional Energy Sources. Wind monitoring projects have also been taken up in six States to provide detailed information for planning large wind energy projects.

(d) Encouragement and assistance in many forms including literature is being provided towards development and greater utilisation of wind energy.

[*Translation*]

Convention of Uniform Civil Code

**1087. SHRI TARLOCHAN SINGH TUR :
SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOO-
WALIA :
SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN :**

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to the decisions taken by the national convention organised recently by the Bar Council of India to discuss the question of a uniform civil code;

(b) if so, what are the decisions and consensus of the convention; and

(c) the steps taken by Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Bar Council of India submitted a report giving some suggestions on Uniform Civil Code. These suggestions are of general nature. The views of Bar Council would be studied and considered while finalising the draft of the Uniform Civil Code.

[*English*]

Joint Ventures with China

**1088. SHRI S.M. GURADDI :
SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJU :**

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether China has shown keen interest in setting up joint ventures with Indian firms; and

(b) if so, whether China has agreed to Indian terms for joint ventures in India ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b). Chinese interest in setting up joint ventures with Indian firms has not come to the notice of the Government. Such proposals, as and when submitted, will be considered on merits in accordance with the policy of the Government.

New Wage Structure for Public Sector

1089. DR. DATTA SAMANT :
SHRI R.M. BHOYE :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are considering to draw up a new wage structure for the public sector linking wages with productivity;

(b) if so, the outline thereof; and

(c) what is the co-ordination between the existing wages and production ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC ENTERPRISES IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. K.K. TEWARY) : (a) and (b). The wage policy for public sector enterprises is under consideration of Government.

(c) The present wage structure is not related to production.

Fire at Vanakbori Thermal Power Station in Gujarat

1090. SHRI AMARSINH RATHAWA :
SHRI MOHANBHAI PATEL :

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether a huge fire broke out at the Vanakbori thermal power station in Gujarat during the month of September, affecting power supply in Gujarat;

(b) if so, the causes of fire;

(c) the estimated loss incurred; and

(d) the steps taken or being taken to meet the demand of power of Gujarat State ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). A committee of experts to investigate the cause of the fire has been set up by the Government of Gujarat. The approximate loss suffered has been estimated to be of the order of Rs. one crore.

(d) Assistance to the extent possible is being provided by Maharashtra. Gujarat State also imposed restrictions on various consumers.

[Translation]

Setting up of Power House in a Rural Area of Delhi

1091. SHRI BHARAT SINGH : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Delhi's two power houses are located at Rajghat and Badarpur with power generation capacity of 670 M.W. whereas the requirement of power in Delhi is 850 M.W. as a result of which rural areas do not get full electricity; and

(b) if so, the time by which a third power house will be set up in a rural area of Delhi to meet full requirement of power of small scale industries ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) Major power stations in Delhi are located at Indraprastha power station of DESU (284 MW) and the Central power Station at Badarpur (720 MW). There is no power shortage in Delhi and the rural areas are, by and large getting their full requirement.

(b) The requirement of small scale industries is also being met, by and large,

fully. Delhi Electric Supply Undertaking is installing six gas turbine units of 30 MW each near Indraprastha Station and 2 units of 67.5 MW each as replacement units at Rajghat. Five gas turbine units have already been commissioned and sixth unit is expected to be commissioned shortly. The 67.5 MW units at Rajghat are expected to be commissioned in 1988-89.

[English]

Lok Adalats in Delhi

1092. SHRIMATI PRABHAWATI GUPTA : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of cases disposed of by the Lok Adalats in Delhi since these started functioning;

(b) whether cases relating to property disputes are also proposed to be taken up by Lok Adalats; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ) : According to the information furnished by the Committee for Implementing Legal Aid Schemes :

(a) Total number of 867 cases have been disposed of by the Lok Adalats in Delhi so far.

(b) and (c). Cases involving claims of property are also handled at Lok Adalats when such disputes become possible for settlement.

Drilling Operations by ONGC in Himachal Pradesh

1093. SHRI A.J.V.B. MAHESWARA RAO : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the locations where the Oil and Natural Gas Commission proposes to undertake drilling operations in Himachal Pradesh; and

(b) the results of drilling operations so far undertaken in Himachal Pradesh ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : (a) ONGC propose to take up drilling at Nurpur and Jawalamukhi in Himachal Pradesh; besides Cheri, where drilling is already in progress.

(b) So far no commercial discovery of oil or gas has been made in Himachal Pradesh.

Allocation of Edible Oil to Bihar

1094. DR. G. S. RAJHANS : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state the allocation of edible oil made to Bihar State during the year 1985-86 and upto 1 October, 1986 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : During oil year 1985-16 (Nov., 85-October, 86), Bihar has been allocated 6550 MTs. imported RBD Palm oil against which they have lifted 6074 MTs till 25.10.86.

Suggestions for Development of Non-Conventional Sources of Energy

1095. SHRI MURLIDHAR MANE : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the symposium held at Madurai Kamraj University has recently made some valuable suggestions about the development of non-conventional sources of energy in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and whether Government are considering the suggestions, if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether financial assistance is extended by Government to the institutions conducting research for the development and use of non-conventional sources of energy ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) and (b). The National Solar Energy Convention 1986 of the Solar Energy Society of India

was held at the Madurai Kamraj University from 13-15 September, 1986. The suggestions made at the Convention have just been received from the Society and are under consideration. A summary of the suggestions is given in the statement below.

(c) Yes, Sir.

Statement

A summary of the suggestions made at the National Solar Energy Convention 1986 is given below :

- (i) Emphasis should be given to development and increased investments in non-conventional energy programmes, as is the case for large centralised energy development and supply.
- (ii) Flexible guide-lines for funding and subsidies should be evolved to take into account both quantitatives as well as performance related criteria.
- (iii) By and large, demonstration projects should be taken up for indigenously developed technologies. In case of import of technologies there should be a clear policy of accelerating their absorption and for indigenous production.
- (iv) Courses on non-conventional energy should be run in IITs and Universities.
- (v) Assistance should be provided to indigenous groups set up to evaluate technical performance and socio-economic aspects. A standing consultative group or advisory group should be set up to include representatives of SESI, State model agencies, industry, R and D institutions, etc.
- (vi) SESI should institute awards particularly for young workers for original R and D work, training, education, essays, etc.

(vii) Centres of excellence and regional/national data bases should be established in each major area of non-conventional energy.

(viii) Non-conventional energy programmes should also be seen in the larger perspective of the contribution they make to value-addition in the rural development processes.

(ix) Greater political commitment and attitudinal changes on resource allocation are required in recognition of the very important role of non-conventional energy in rural development.

Power Generation in Bihar

1096. SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether power generation in Bihar during September and October 1986 has been hovering between 350 and 400 MW;

(b) if so, reasons thereof; and

(c) the existing capacity and its utilisation during these months ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) The average maximum daily MW output during September, 1986 and October, 1986 in Bihar was 468 MW and 458 MW respectively.

(b) There are various reasons for low power generation which include unsatisfactory performance of thermal power stations due to increased unscheduled outages, long time taken for maintenance etc.

(c) The existing capacity of Bihar is 1575 MW comprising of 1425 MW thermal and 150 MW Hydro. The plant load factor of thermal power stations during September, 1986 and October, 1986 in Bihar was 33.3% and 31.7% respectively as against the national average plant load factor of 51.5% and 52.1% respectively.

Power Crisis in Rajasthan

1097. **SHRI RAM SINGH YADAV :**
Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether due to outages in thermal plant unit, Kota, super thermal plant unit, Singrauli (UP) and shut-down of first unit of atomic power plant at Rawat Bhata (Kota) the State of Rajasthan is facing crisis of electricity supply; and

(b) if so, steps envisaged to meet power requirement of Rajasthan ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) The power requirement of Rajasthan are met from its own generation at Kota (Thermal) and Mahi Bajaj Sagar (Hydro) and its share in BBMB system, Chambal-Satpura system and the Central Sector Singrauli STPS, besides, utilising the entire output from the Central Sector Rajasthan atomic power station (RAPS). The power shortage in Rajasthan during October, 1986 was about 11%.

(b) In order to mitigate the shortage, assistance to the extent possible is rendered to Rajasthan from BBMB system, Singrauli STPS and Chambal-Satpura complex.

Incentives to new Cement Units to expand capacity

1098. **SHRI SRIBALLAV PANI-GRAHI :**
SHRI H.N. NANJE GOWDA :
SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJU :
SHRI H.B. PATIL :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have decided to exempt new cement units from the obligations of supplying levy cement to Government agencies;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the details regarding other incentives which Government have decided to

extend to the industry to expand installed capacity by the end of Seventh Five Year Plan ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNA-CHALAM) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) With a view to ensure expeditious installation of additional capacity the schemes of expansions and modernisation are being encouraged. Further, to encourage maximisation of production out of the existing installed capacities, the level of levy obligation has been reduced in relation to production beyond 100% and upto 125% of the licensed capacity. The levy obligation on the old units on production beyond 100% is at the rate of 45% (as against the normal level of 60%) and for new units it is at the rate of 30% of production beyond 100%, (as against the normal level of 40%). Further, the cement factories using DG Sets are provided relief at the rate of 26% of their production from power generated from DG Sets installed after 28th February, 1982.

Setting up of Cooking Gas Industry in Assam

1099. **SHRI BHADRESWAR TANTI :** Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to pipe out the natural gas from Assam and to set up cooking gas industry outside the State;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof;

(c) whether Assam Government have demanded setting up of such industry in Assam itself; and

(d) if so, the reaction of Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d). Does not arise.

Suggestion of Expert Group for Setting up Central Body on Chemicals Involving Health Hazards

1100. SHRI P. M. SAYEED : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether a meeting was held in August 1986 of an inter-ministerial group dealing with chemicals which involve health hazards;

(b) whether the expert group suggested setting up of a Central body for the purpose and if so, the reaction of Government thereto; and

(c) the details of other suggestions made regarding preventive measures for safety of health of workers employed in both private and public sector industry units ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R. K. JAI-CHANDRA SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir. The Inter-Ministerial Group appointed by the Government for the purpose of evolving guidelines and recommendations for safety based on observations relating to existing practices have, *inter alia*, recommended setting up of a national nodal agency which could be called 'National Board on Industrial Safety and Hazards'. No decision has so far been taken on this recommendation.

(c) The Inter-Ministerial Group has evolved specific guidelines and also made general suggestions for ensuring safety in chemicals and petro-chemical units. These guidelines provide a check-list ranging from safety audit of such units, to ensure not only their safe operation but also to provide for personnel safety to the checks necessary even at the design stage. The general suggestions made in the report emphasise the need for safety training programmes, multi-disciplinary in-house safety units, the need to conform to specified guidelines on transportation and disposal

of chemicals, the need to encourage investment in safety etc.

Proposals to enlarge scope of Khadi and Village Industries Commission

1101. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT :
SHRI MUKUL WASNIK :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a proposal under the consideration of Government to enlarge the scope of operations of the Khadi and Village Industries Commission in the near future;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the details of amendments proposed to be made in the KVIC Act; and

(d) to what extent the rural people in the country will be benefited as a result thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. By enlarging the scope of operations of the Khadi and Village Industries Commission, rural industrialisation and employment will be promoted.

(c) and (d). The proposals are still under formulation.

Upgradation of Agartala and Imphal Head Post and Telegraph Offices

1103. SHRI AJOY BISWAS : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to upgrade the Agartala Head Post and Telegraph Office and Imphal Head Post and Telegraph Office to the gazetted status;

(b) if so, the time by which it will be done; and

(c) if not, the reasons thereof ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS
(SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) :**

Posts

(a) to (c). Agartala and Imphal Head Post Offices fulfil the conditions for upgradation to the gazetted status. However, as upgradation to the gazetted status involves creation of some new posts, it is not possible to upgrade these offices in the context of ban on creation of new posts.

Telecom.

(a) The Telegraph offices at Imphal and Agartala have been upgraded on 29.11.84 and 29.5.85 respectively.

(b) and (c). Does not arise.

Report on Judicial Reforms

1104. SHRI D.K. NAIKAR :
SHRIMATI PATEL RAMABAN
RAMJIBHAI MAVANI :

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Law Commission has submitted its reports on judicial reforms;

(b) if so, when and the details of the recommendations; and

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken by Government thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ) : (a) to (c). The Law Commission has submitted to the Government 114th Report on Gram Nyayalaya on 12th August, 1986 and 15th Report on Tax Courts on 28th August, 1986. Action is being taken to lay copies of these reports on the table of Parliament. Thereafter, an indepth study of these reports will be made and a decision will be taken as to whether, and if so on what lines, the recommendations contained therein are to be implemented by legislation.

**Plan to Restructure divisions of Indian
Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Limited**

1106. SHRI H.N. NANJE GOWDA :
SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJU :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to restructure all the divisions of the Indian Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Ltd.;

(b) whether any time bound programme has been prepared for this; and

(c) the main features of the proposal ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R.K. JAI-CHANDRA SINGH) : (a) to (c). At the instance of the Government the company set up an in-house task force to identify the constraints and opportunities in respect of each of its Divisions and to come out with concrete plan for their rehabilitation and revival. On the basis of the analysis made by the task force, the company is reviewing the rehabilitation plan.

Starting of work on HBJ Pipeline

1107. SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN SINHA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether work on the HBJ pipeline has begun;

(b) if so, whether Government apprehend delay in its completion due to late start;

(c) whether work on the compressor stations also has begun; and

(d) whether compressor station machinery would be indigenous ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Machinery for the compressor stations is partly indigenous, and partly imported.

Further Collaboration for Passenger Car Production

1108. SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are considering to permit further collaborations for passenger car production; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor, particularly in view of restricted domestic market and bleak export prospects ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b). The matter is under consideration of the Government as a part of the new automobile policy to be formulated.

Expansion Plan of BHEL

1109. SHRI SRIHARI RAO : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the measures being taken for modernisation and renovation of manufacturing facilities in Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited; and

(b) whether any plans have been formulated for further expansion of the BHEL and if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC ENTERPRISES IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. K.K. TEWARY) : (a) The following measures are being taken for modernisation and renovation of manufacturing facilities in BHEL :

- (i) Reconditioning of existing machine tools.
- (ii) Installation of features like numerical control/computerised numerical control and digital read-out systems.
- (iii) Installation of high-tech measuring instruments for quality improvement.

(b) No new units are planned for the VII Plan. Manufacturing facilities for gas turbines, nuclear steam generator, etc., are being set up in the existing units.

Procurement of Rice in Andhra Pradesh

1110. SHRI BHATTAM SRIRAMA MURTY : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have decided not to procure rice from Andhra Pradesh during the coming rice marketing season in view of the drought and floods there;

(b) whether any request of similar nature was received from that State Government by the Centre; and

(c) the normal procurement target for Andhra Pradesh and how much of it is released back to the State for public distribution system ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) and (b). No, Sir.

(c) There are no targets for procurement of foodgrains. The quantities of rice procured in and allotted to Andhra Pradesh, since 1984-85, are as follows :

(in lakh tonnes)

Year (Oct.-Sept.)	Procurement (Rice including paddy in terms of rice)	Allotment
1984-85	17.89	10.60
1985-86	15.72	11.60
1986-87 (as on 4.11.86)	0.01	2.35 (Oct. and Nov. '86)

Joint Venture for LPG Extraction Facilities

1111. SHRI SIMON TIGGA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are exploring the possibilities of setting up joint venture between the Gas Authority of India Limited and private parties for providing LPG extraction facilities; and

(b) if so, details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The Government are exploring the possibility of setting up joint sector enterprises for extraction of LPG and other fractions, like propane, at suitable locations along the HBJ gas pipeline.

Number of Industries in the Country

1112. PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Sample Survey Organisation reported 8.8 million industries in the country in 1973-74;

(b) whether Economic Census of 1980 mentions the number as 6 million;

(c) whether the statistics published by the Development Commissioner, Small Scale Industries in 1985 mentions the number of industries as 1.2 million of which 6 lakhs are recorded; and

(d) if so, the correct number of industries in the country and their distribution ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b). According to the information furnished by CSO the number of 8.8 million industries in the country referred to in part (a) of the question relates to the year 1974-75 and not for 1973-74. This number relates to those industries which were engaged in the manufacturing process and not registered under section 2M(I) and 2M (II) of the Factories Act, 1948. Further, this is based on the sample survey of self-employed households in non-agricultural enterprises in NSS 29th Round (July 1974-June 1975).

According to Economic Census 1980, the number of industries was 6 million which excluded the number of manufacturing industries in Assam where the Census was not conducted. These two sets of figures are not comparable because of methodological differences as given below :

- (i) While the figure of 8.8 million is based on sample surveys of self-employed households in non-agricultural enterprises, the figure of 6 million is based on Census of enterprises identified during the house-listing operations for the 1981 Population Census with reference to the purposes for which the Census "house" is used.
- (ii) The length of the survey period was complete one year for the 29th Round while the survey period for 1980 economic census was very much truncated; on an average 3 to 4 months in each State. This longer survey period in the 29th Round may have had greater chances of netting more manufacturing enterprises than Economic Census 1980;
- (iii) For Economic Census 1980, enterprises which work on a fairly regular basis alone were considered while in the sample survey household having at least one member self-employed in entrepreneurial activity for at least 30 days during the last 365 days preceding the date of the survey was considered as a household enterprise.
- (iv) In view of the definition of household enterprises followed for the sample survey, it would attract more number of enterprises than revealed by the Census.

(c) and (d). The estimated number of Small Industries Development Organisation (SIDO) units as at the end of December 1985 was 13.53 lakhs out of which 8.53 lakh units were registered with the State/UT Directorates of Industries.

Autonomy to Public Sector Undertakings

1113. SHRI KAMAL NATH : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government had taken a decision to streamline the functioning and improve the performance of the Steel Authority of India Limited by granting it more autonomy; and

(b) if so, whether Government are considering to introduce the same system in other Public Sector Undertakings ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC ENTERPRISES IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. K.K. TEWARY):
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Introduction of the same system in other Public Sector Undertakings would depend upon the merits of each case.

Setting up of Power Finance Corporation

1114. SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up a Power Finance Corporation; and

(b) if so, the causes for delay in setting up of Power Finance Corporation leading to delay in financing the major power projects in the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) and (b). The proposal to set up a Power Finance Corporation has been approved by Government and the Corporation has been incorporated as a Public Limited Company with its headquarters at New Delhi. Selection of the Chief Executive is to be made shortly.

Steps to Boost Domestic Capital Goods Industry

1115. SHRI AMAL DATTA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the details of Government's proposals to boost domestic capital goods industry;

(b) their experience of the liberal import

of project schemes and second hand plants to boost domestic industry;

(c) whether those facilities were misused by some parties; and

(d) if so, the details of such parties and action taken against them ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) Various measures have been taken for continued growth in production of capital goods industries. These include enhancing their capabilities to face international competition through suitable changes in industrial and fiscal policies, encouraging schemes of modernisation and technology upgradation and providing assistance for adequate availability of inputs. Inter-Ministerial consultations are also taking place at various levels for initiating further measures.

(b) The import of second hand plants under the normal circumstances is not being recommended in case a new plant of similar capacity and specifications can be produced by indigenous manufacturers.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Expansion Plan by Maruti Udyog Ltd.

1116. SHRIMATI N. P. JHANSI LAKSHMI :

SHRI SRIKANTA DATTA
NARASIMHARAJA WADIYAR :

SHRI V. SOBHANADREE-
SWARA RAO :

SHRI KRUPASINDHU BHOI :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the total amount of deposits for Maruti Car bookings made so far;

(b) the number of cars booked and the capacity of the Maruti Udyog Limited to meet the increasing demand for Maruti Cars;

(c) whether there are any future expansion plans by Maruti Udyog Limited to produce more cars; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC ENTERPRISES IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. K.K. TEWARY) : (a) and (b). In 1983, Maruti Udyog Ltd. booked 121,421 cars and collected Rs. 121.421 crores as deposits. In 1984, bookings were made for the deluxe car against foreign exchange and 8,657 cars were booked and Rs. 8.657 crores were collected as deposits. In 1986, bookings were made for handicapped persons and 1,705 cars were booked and Rs. 1,705 crores were collected as deposits. Currently, bookings are in progress for the standard model of the Maruti car. This booking closes on the 8th of November, 1986 and data regarding the number of bookings are well as amount collected would be known shortly thereafter. Maruti Udyog Ltd. has produced 80,300 cars and has the capacity to meet the bookings within a reasonable period of time.

(c) and (d). Maruti Udyog Ltd. could, depending upon market demand, increase production of cars to about 75,000 a year.

[*Translation*]

Public Undertakings Incurring Losses

1117. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR :
SHRI SARFARAZ AHMED :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the names of public sector undertakings which are running in losses;

(b) the names of the undertakings out of these, in which payment of bonus has been made for the year 1985-86; indicating the amount thereof; and

(c) the criteria for payment of bonus ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC ENTERPRISES IN THE MINISTRY OF

INDUSTRY (PROF. K.K. TEWARY) : (a) and (b). Information is being collected and would be placed on the Table of the House.

(c) Public Enterprises which derive not less than 20% of their gross income from sales and/or services in competition with the private sector establishments come within the purview of Payment of Bonus Act and as such are liable to disburse bonus in accordance with the provisions of the Payment of Bonus Act. The enterprises which do not satisfy this criteria laid down in section 20 of the Payment of Bonus Act, have been authorised by the Government on year to year basis to pay ex-gratia to their employees on the same basis as if the provisions of the Payment of Bonus Act were applicable to them.

[*English*]

Import of Captive Power Plants Equipments for use in Karnataka

1118. SHRI V.S. KRISHNA IYER : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Karnataka Government has requested for the grant of import licence for captive power plant equipments to tide over the acute power shortage;

(b) if so, the total number of equipments required; and

(c) whether approval was given for the import of captive power plant equipments for the use of Karnataka ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b). Karnataka Power Corporation had filed an application for import of 16 Diesel Generating Sets from M/s Nissho Iwai, Japan.

(c) No, Sir.

[*Translation*]

Loss Suffered by FCI

1119. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH :

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) the total loss incurred by Food Corporation of India during the last three years and the steps taken by Government to check the increasing losses;

(b) the loss suffered by Food Corporation of India during each of the last

three years on account of theft, spoilage of foodgrains and other reasons; and

(c) the number of cases in which responsibility for loss has been fixed and the number of guilty persons punished ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) The details of the total loss are as under :

(Qty. in lakh M.T.)

Year	Turnover (Purchase + Sales)	Quantity of loss	Percentage of loss to turn over
1983-84	319.00	6.74	2.11
1984-85	295.14	5.72	1.94
1985-86	368.40	5.95	1.62

A number of steps are taken to reduce losses including augmentation of covered storage capacity, reducing CAP storage (cover and plinth), better preservation, scientific storage, adoption of strict quality control measures, 100% weighment at handling stages to the extent possible, reduction in quantum of filling, machine stitching of bags and effective supervision and surprise checks.

(b) Loss on account of theft/pilferage has been as under :

Year	Qty. (M.T.)	Value (Rs. lakhs)
1983-84	505	9.22
1984-85	293	6.28
1985-86	401	8.43

The details of foodgrains damaged are as under :

(Qty. in Lakh M.Ts.)

(Value in Rs. Crores)

Year	Qty. of foodgrains transferred from sound to damaged foodgrains	Value after deducting realisable value	Average stock holding of foodgrains by FCI	%age of damages to average stock holding
1982-83	0.48	3.26	96.02	0.50
1983-84	1.01	9.95	118.85	0.85
1984-85	0.65	7.77	163.15	0.40

(c) The data regarding officials penalised due to their responsibility for losses is not separately available. The details of the officials

who have been penalised under minor penalty and major penalty are as follows :

Year	Major Penalty	Minor Penalty	Total
1984	214	442	656
1985	430	348	778
1986 (Upto 9/86)	341	326	667

[English]

Revival of Sick Industries In West Bengal

1120. KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that during his last visit to West Bengal, the Prime Minister had assured that the sick industries in the State will be nationalised or revived on the specific recommendations of the State Government;

(b) if so, whether any list of sick industries or any recommendation in relation thereto has been received from the State Government by his Ministry; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c), Do not arise.

Industries Inviting Investment in Tree Plantation

1121. SHRI MOHD. MAHFOOZ ALI KHAN : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of industries in the country are inviting specific amount of investment in the tree plantation and offering attractive terms;

(b) if so, the names of the companies inviting investments in tree plantations and the terms offered by them;

(c) the estimated amount collected by these companies so far;

(d) whether such activities of the companies are considered to be unfair trade practices under the MRTP Act; and

(e) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken by Government in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (e). Government does not have information regarding the various companies which may be inviting public investments in tree plantations. However, the MRTP Commission has instituted two inquiries, namely, (i) Unfair Trade Practices Enquiry No. 109 of 1986 against M/s. Marudhar Services Ltd., New Delhi; and (ii) Unfair Trade Practices Enquiry No. 170 of 1986 against M/s. Asian Townsville Farms Ltd., New Delhi, for issuing advertisements making misleading and tall claims falling within the meaning of Unfair Trade Practices under Section 36A of the MRTP Act. In the first case, the Commission has passed final orders directing the company not to repeat the unfair trade practice in the shape of an advertisement, while in the second case an injunction order restraining the company from issuing misleading advertisements and brochures has been passed by the Commission.

**Convention on Small Scale Industries
in Delhi**

1122. SHRI YASHWANTRAO GADAKH PATIL : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether convention on Small Scale Industries was held in Delhi in September, 1986 and was addressed by the Union Ministers;

(b) if so, the details of the assurances given to the Small Scale Industries for their development; and

(c) the follow-up action taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) Yes, Sir. A National Convention on Small Scale Industries was organised by the Federation of Associations of Small Industries of India in Delhi on the 17th September, 1986 and it was addressed by the Prime Minister, Union Minister for Industry, Union Minister of State for Finance and Union Minister of State for Labour.

(b) Continued support to the development of small scale industries was assured.

(c) It is a continuous exercise.

Production of Gas out of Coal

1123. SHRI G. BHOOPATHY : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether any project for producing gas out of coal and for use of such gas in the thermal power stations has been evaluated; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A research and development project for producing low calorific value gas from

coal and using the same in place of oil for warm-up and stabilization of the coal flame in 2×60 MW boilers at Ennore Thermal Power Station in Tamil Nadu State was evaluated and sanctioned by Government in June 1982. The project, executed by Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd., is likely to be completed by the end of 1986-87. BHEL is also evaluating the techno-economic-feasibility of power generation using pressurized gasification systems based on coal.

**Extension of Jurisdiction of Panaji Bench
of Bombay High Court**

1124. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal for the extension of the jurisdiction of the Panaji Bench of the Bombay High Court; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Expert Groups to Survey Chemical Units

1125. DR. G. VIJAYA RAMA RAO : SHRI MANIK REDDY :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether six expert groups were set up to survey and inspect individual chemical units in the public and private sector as reported in the 'Economic Times' of 20th October, 1986;

(b) if so, whether this work has been completed and the results of this exercise; and

(c) whether the inspection also included pesticide units ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY

OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R.K. JAI-CHANDRA SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir. The final report is with Government for further action.

(c) Yes, Sir.

Shortage of Oil and Oil Products

1126. SHRI KAMLA PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the country is to face acute shortage of oil and oil products in 2000 AD and the dependency on foreign sources will increase substantially;

(b) if so, whether Government have done any long term planning to meet the challenge; and

(c) if so, details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : (a) to (c). Oil Exploration being probabilistic in nature, it is difficult to say with any certainty what degree of self sufficiency would be attained by 2000 AD. However, some of the steps taken to increase the production of Crude Oil in the country include intensification of exploration, use of enhanced recovery techniques, induction of advanced technology and conservation measures to curb consumption perspective plans for 20 years upto 2005 AD envisaging a production of 100 MMT by 2005 AD is also being prepared by the Oil and Natural Gas Commission.

All India Convention of Union Public Sector Employees

1127. SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether an All India convention of employees of Central Public Sector Undertakings was convened in New Delhi on 21st October, 1986 to chalk out a plan of action to oppose measures which in their view have diluted the role of public sector; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Union Government to the resolutions passed and speeches made at the above convention ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC ENTERPRISES IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. K.K. TEWARI) : (a) and (b). Information is not readily available. It is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

S.T.D. Service in Baroda

1128. SHRI RANJITSINGH GAEKWAD : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to provide STD service between Baroda and other cities in the country during the Seventh Five Year Plan period; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) and (b). STD service is already available between Baroda and a large number of cities in the country through Trunk Automatic Exchange (TAX) network. For outgoing STD calls; Baroda is connected to TAX, Ahmedabad. Baroda can be accessed for incoming STD calls through TAXs at Ahmedabad and Bombay. To the present 350 stations including Baroda having National Subscriber dialling facility through TAX network, about 250 more stations are likely to be added during the remaining period of 7th plan on the expansion of the TRX network. A digital electronic TAX of 2000-one capacity is likely to be commissioned in Baroda in 1989-90.

[Translation]

Cases of Theft and Leakage in Khadi Gramodyog Bhawan, New Delhi

1129. SHRIMATI VIDYAVATI CHATURVEDI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 3686 on 16.3.1981 regarding theft and leakage in Khadi Gramodyog Bhawan, New Delhi and state :

(a) the outcome of the enquiry into the cases relating to Khadi Gramodyog Bhawan, New Delhi which were under investigation;

(b) the number of fresh cases of theft and leakage which came to light from April, 1981 to March, 1986 and whether the Department has taken any action thereon; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) The action taken in regard to cases of theft and leakage as on 16.3.1981 is given below in statement-I.

(b) and (c). Showing the number of cases of theft and leakage during the period April, 1981 to March, 1986 and the action taken thereon is given below in statement-II.

Statement-I

Statement showing the outcome of the inquiry into the cases of theft and leakages as on 16.3.1981 relating to Khadi Gramodyog Bhawan, New Delhi, which were under investigation

Sl.No.	Month and Year	Article involved	Action taken
1	2	3	4
1.	January, 1978	Silk Saree	Persons working on the counter have been charge-sheeted. Khadi Gramodyog Bhawan has suggested the Commission to write off the amount involved.
2.	August, 1978	Three Printed Silk Sarees	The culprit was caught red-handed. F.I.R. lodged vide No. 1075 dated 7.8.78. The case is still pending in the Court.
3.	June, 1979	Silk goods	Departmental enquiry was held against the staff concerned and negligence was proved. The staff concerned were penalised vide letter No. MKT/1/9/82/BH dated 13/17.1.83. Accordingly, a sum of Rs. 2896.80 has been recovered from Shri Kamlapatti Tewari, Incharge and Rs. 1482.00 from Shri Leela Dhar Joshi, Driver, as penalty imposed by the Commission. The remaining amount involved is to be written off.
4.	October, 1979	Silk Saree	The amount has been written off vide sanction letter No. MKT/1/19/82-Bh. dated 2 1.83.
5.	November, 1979	Silk Saree	
6.	November, 1979	Silk goods	Departmental enquiry was conducted and the amount has since been recovered from the staff found guilty.
7.	November, 1979	Silk Saree	Departmental enquiry against staff working on the counter has been initiated. Bhawan

1	2	3	4
			has suggested the Commission to write off the amount involved.
8. October, 1980	Silk Saree		The amount has been written off vide sanction letter No. MKT/1/19/82-Bh dated 2.1.83.
9. December, 1980	Silk Saree		One lady was caught red-handed while stealing the silk saree. She was handed over to Police and was convicted on 29.10.82 by the Court.
10. January, 1981	Seven Silk Sarees		F.I.R. was lodged with the Police. The departmental enquiry has been completed and the persons working on the counter found negligent and the loss will be recovered from them.

Statement-II

Details of 21 cases of Theft/Leakages in Khadi Gramodyog Bhavan, New Delhi, which came to light during the period from April, 1981 to March, 1986

Item	Number of cases	Number of item Involved	Action taken
Silk Sarees	16	36	In 8 cases, individual responsibility could not be fixed as these relate to shop lifting during Gandhi Jayanti Special Rebate period. In 5 cases, Departmental inquiry is under process. In the remaining 3 cases, the amounts have been recommended for written off,
Woolen Shawl/Chadar	3	3	In one case, Departmental inquiry is under process. Of the remaining 2 cases, the persons were caught red-handed and one case is pending with the police while the other is in the Court.
Excess cloth billed by Salseman	1	—	Warning has been issued to the Salesman and cloth has been taken back.
Misappropriation of cash by one of the employees	1	Involving Rs. 67,410.18	F.I.R. lodged with the police. Charge-sheet has been issued. Departmental enquiry has been finalised and staff concerned dismissed from service in April, 1986. A little over Rs. 30,000 has been recovered.

Setting up of Gas-based unit or Cooking Gas unit in Jhabua, Madhya Pradesh

1130. SHRI DILEEP SINGH BHURIA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the gas pipeline of Bombay High is being laid through Jhabua district of Madhya Pradesh to Guna district of the same State and further upto Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, whether Government have examined the feasibility of setting up a gas-based unit or a cooking gas units at Jhabua; and

(c) if so, the action being taken by Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : (a) The HBJ Pipeline is passing through Jhabua district of Madhya Pradesh.

(b) and (c). The Government are exploring the possibility of setting up joint sector enterprises for extraction of LPG and other fractions, like propane, at suitable locations along the HBJ gas pipeline.

[English]

Financial Assistance for Fair Price shops in Orissa

1131. SHRI SOMNATH RATH : Will

the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) the amount given to Orissa Government as soft loan and other grants to open fair price shops for distribution of essential commodities through co-operative sector, during the last three years;

(b) whether Government have issued any directions to State Governments for distribution of essential commonities through co-operative sector; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) to (c). Under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes, assistance to State Governments is given for promoting cooperative consumer movement in urban and rural areas. The purpose of this financial assistance is to enable the consumers' cooperative societies to deal with large variety of essential mass consumption goods and sell them at reasonable prices to the consumers. No separate assistance is given to such societies for opening fair price shops. Some of the societies may, however, be having fair price shops also. Under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes for development of consumers' cooperatives in urban areas as well as in rural areas, assistance has been provided to the Government of Orissa as follows :

Year	(Rs. in lakhs)		
	For Urban areas		
	Loan	Grants	Total
1983-84	10.625	0.575	11.200
1984-85	4.490	0.730	5.220
1985-86	4.590	0.530	5.120

The State Governments have been advised by the Government of India that cooperatives should be encouraged to play a larger role in opening of fair price shops. As on

30.6.1986, out of the total number of 19,555 fair price shops in the State of Orissa, 4,860 were in the cooperative sector,

Proposal to set up a Polyester Filament Yarn Project in Cuttack in Orissa

1132. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PAT-
NAIK : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY
be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have a propo-
sal to set up a Polyester Filament Yarn
project in Cuttack district in Orissa;

(b) if so, the capacity of that project;

(c) whether the letter of intent has been
issued to the concerned private company;
and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND
PETRO-CHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY
OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R.K. JAI-
CHANDRA SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) 15,000 TPA.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

**Setting up of Terephaleic Acid Project
in Cuttack in Orissa**

1133. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PAT-
NAIK : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY
be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Industrial Promotion
and Investment Corporation of Orissa Ltd.
have applied for grant of a letter of intent
for setting up a Terephaleic Acid Project in
Cuttack district;

(b) if so, the steps taken to grant the
letter of intent; and

(c) by which date the above proposal is
expected to be approved ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND
PETRO-CHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY
OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R.K. JAI-
CHANDRA SINGH) : (a) to (c). The
Industrial Promotion and Investment
Corporation of Orissa Limited had applied

in April 1986 for issue of an industrial
licence for setting up of a new undertaking
in Cuttack District (Orissa) for manufacture
of 50,000 tonnes/annum of Terephthalic
Acid. The application has been rejected.

**Proposal to set up Chemical Complex
at Chhatrapur in Orissa**

1134. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PAT-
NAIK : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY
be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have a propo-
sal to set up a Chemical Complex at
Chhatrapur in Orissa;

(b) if so, when such proposal is going
to be implemented; and

(c) the steps taken to expedite the
setting up of Chemical Complex at Chhatra-
pur in orissa ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND
PETRO-CHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY
OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R.K. JAI-
CHANDRA SINGH) : (a) to (c). The
Central Government has no proposal to set
up a chemicals complex at Chhatrapur in
Orissa. However, M/s. Reliance Steels
Limited has been granted a letter of intent
for establishing a new industrial undertaking
at Chhatrapur in Distt. Ganjam in Orissa
for the manufacture of 20,000 tonnes per
annum of Titanium Dioxide Pigment
(Rutile Grade).

**Scheme to Increase Power Generating
Capacity by National Thermal Power
Corporation**

1135. SHRI ANANTA PRASAD
SETHI : Will the Minister of ENERGY be
pleased to state :

(a) whether any scheme has been framed
by the National Thermal Power Corpora-
tion to increase the power generating
capacity of its projects during the Seventh
Five Year Plan Period; and

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith
the funds earmarked for this purpose ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE

MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) and (b). During the Seventh Plan period, the National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) have planned to instal additional generating capacity of 7990 MW, which include 3500 MW through expansion stages of the projects, as under :

Singrauli Stage-II (2 × 500 MW)	1000 MW
Korba Stage-II (3 × 500 MW)	1500 MW
Ramagundam Stage-II (2 × 500 MW)	1000 MW
Farakka Stage-I (3 × 200 MW)	600 MW
Vindhyachal Stage-I (6 × 210 MW)	1260 MW
Rihand Stage-I (2 × 500 MW)	1000 MW
Gas Projects	1630 MW* depend- ing upon
Total	7990 MW the site rating of the gas turbines.

In addition to the above, the NTPC have initiated action for preparation of Feasibility Reports in respect of expansion of ongoing projects and setting up of new projects. An outlay of Rs. 5559.80 crores has been provided for NTPC schemes in the Seventh Plan.

**Employment on Compassionate Grounds
in N. W. Telecom. and Postal
Circle**

1136. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the position regarding the number of cases pending for employment on compassionate grounds in the N.W. Telecom. and Postal Circles for each Telegraph Engineering Postal Division separately, during the last three years including the current financial year;

(b) the total number of cases approved for such employment during this period and how many of them have actually been employed; and

(c) the likely date by which the remaining appointments would be made ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be placed on the table of the House.

**Setting up of Petrol/Diesel Pumps and
LPG Agencies in Himachal Pradesh**

1137. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 586 on 22 July, 1986 re : survey conducted for locating petrol/diesel/LPG agencies in Himachal Pradesh and state :

(a) whether the marketing plan for setting up petrol/diesel pumps and LPG agencies has since been finalised; and

(b) if so, the details thereof for Himachal Pradesh and the likely dates by which the LPG distributorship included in the marketing plan for 1984-85 and 1985-86 will be sanctioned ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : (a) Marketing Plan for 1986-87 for setting up of Retail Outlets has been finalised. The 1986-87 Marketing Plan for LPG distributorship has not been finalised.

(b) The following two locations for the development of Retail Outlets in Himachal Pradesh have been included in the Marketing Plan for 1986-87 :

1. Kaza in Distt. Lahaul Spiti
2. Chhalla in Distt. Simla.

Out of the four locations included in the 1984-85 and the 1985-86 Marketing Plans for creation of LPG distributorships in

Himachal Pradesh, while one has been commissioned, LOI has been issued for another. A re-assessment of the economic viability at the remaining two locations is in hand.

LPG Agency at Una, Himachal Pradesh

1138. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been inordinate delay in the allotment of LPG agency at Una in Himachal Pradesh which is one of the few district headquarters in the State not served by any gas agency thus causing great inconvenience to the people;

(b) if so, the date on which the advertisement for this purpose was first issued and the reasons for delay; and

(c) the likely date by which the allotment would be made ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : (a) to (c). Finding no eligible candidate in response to the first advertisement which was released on 23.5.1983 and 26.5.1983 in English and Regional newspapers respectively, and further finding unsuitable the candidates recommended by the Collector, the location was readvertised. Interviews have been conducted and the final recommendation of the OSB (North) is awaited. Allotment of the distributorship will be made thereafter.

Opening of New Extra Departmental Branch Offices in Himachal Pradesh

1139. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the population of a group of villages forming a cluster within a radius of 1.5 Kms. around the main village is taken into account while considering the proposal for the sanction of an Extra Departmental Branch Offices in the Hill States like Himachal Pradesh as approved by the Planning Commission;

(b) if so, whether this approach is actually followed in the sanction of proposals for EDBOs;

(c) if so, the names of the proposals which are found justified for opening new Extra Departmental Branch Offices in Himachal Pradesh, Division-wise as on date, but which could not be opened on account of the ban on recruitment; and

(d) if not, the reasons for not following this stipulation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) and (b). The concept of grouping of villages within a radius of 1.5 Kms around the main village in order to make up an aggregate population of 1,000 was adopted by the Department in the case of tribal areas and other areas indentified as backward in respect of postal facilities. In so far as Himachal Pradesh is concerned, Kinnaur, Lahaul and Spiti and certain tahsils/sub-tahsils in Chamba are treated as tribal or backward for purposes of postal development and the population norm referred to above has been followed in these areas. The Planning Commission, however, is not associated with this concept. On the other hand, the recommendation made by the Working Group on Hill Area Development Programme for the Seventh five Year Plan is that to begin with at least there may be a Post Office within four hours of walking distance or say 10 Kms both ways together.

(c) and (d). On the basis of grouping of villages referred to above, the village considered justified for opening of a Post Office is Pansai (Chamba). However, new Post Offices are not sanctioned at present for the following reasons :

(i) There is a continuing ban on creation of posts.

(ii) The question of revision of norms for opening of Post Offices in the light of the report of the Committee of Enquiry into the Extra Departmental System and other relevant considerations has been taken up and consequently, the justification for opening of

new post offices may have to be gone into afresh.

Communication Services in Remote Area of Orissa

1140. SHRI JAGANNATH PATTA-
NAIK : Will the Minister of COMMUNI-
CATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of inadequate communication services in the remote and interior areas of Orissa;

(b) whether Government have conducted any survey to provide communication facility to the far flung villages like in district Kalahandi which are still lagging behind;

(c) if so, how many post offices, telegraph offices and telephone exchanges are proposed to be opened in these villages to bring them in the mainstream of communications; and

(d) by when these new post offices etc. are likely to be opened ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS
(SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a)

Postal : On the whole, development of postal services in Orissa can be considered to be satisfactory though it is possible that the services needs to be further extended in some of the remote areas. The average area and population served by a post office in Orissa is 20.60 sq. kms. and 2911 respectively. The corresponding indices for the country as a whole are 21.94 sq. kms. and 4748 people.

Telecommunications : Yes, Sir.

(b) Postal : Yes, Sir. The postal needs of Kalahandi have been assessed.

Telecommunications : Yes, Sir.

(c) Postal : The provisional assessment is that there may be scope for opening seven more post offices in the district. These cases may be considered in the light of the norms when the ban on creation of posts is lifted.

Telecommunications : Fifty telegraph offices and ten telephone exchanges are proposed to be opened in Kalahandi District of Orissa during the 7th Five Year Plan.

(d) Postal : As there is no indication at present as to when the ban on creation of posts may be lifted, it is not possible to indicate at this stage as to when more post offices may be opened in Kalahandi district.

Telecommunications : Out of the proposals as given in (c) above, ten telegraph offices have already been opened, balance would be opened progressively during the 7th Plan period.

Requirement of LPG

1141. SHRI MOHANBHAI PATEL : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the total requirement of LPG in terms of tonnage as against the production at present;

(b) the details of Government schemes to increase the production of LPG by expanding the capacity of existing refineries and through natural gas separately;

(c) whether it is a fact that still there are lakhs of people on waiting lists;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor when there is sufficient production of LPG in the country; and

(e) the steps being taken by Government to cover all the applications which are pending for the last three years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND
NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA
DUTT) : (a) The estimated requirement and production of LPG during 1986-87 is 1520 thousand tonnes and 1476 thousand tonnes respectively.

(b) Following projects have been approved to increase the production of LPG :

Name of the Project	LPG Production capacity (thousand tonnes per years)
1. LPG recovery plant at Hazira	154
2. Gas Sweetening Condensate treatment and Sulphur Recovery Plant at Hazira Phase-I	136.25
3. Gas Sweetening Condensate treatment and Sulphur Recovery Plant at Hazira Phase-II	136.25

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The existing production of LPG and infrastructure for its bottling etc. are not adequate to release connections to all persons on the waiting list.

(e) Apart from augmenting the availability of LPG through increased production and by imports, the bottling capacity and the related infrastructure are being expanded.

Mechanisation undertaken by Bharat Coking Coal Limited

1142. SHRI SRIKANTA DATTA NARASIMHARAJA WADIYAR : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Bharat Coking Coal Ltd. has taken steps to mechanise its working of the coal mines;

(b) if so, the degree and the pace of mechanisation undertaken by BCCL so far;

(c) the name of the mines under operation of Bharat Coking Coal Ltd., where steps have been taken for mechanisation; and

(d) the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) Yes, Sir. A

number of steps have been taken to improve the operation and working of mines in Bharat Coking Coal Ltd. by introduction of mechanisation in the existing mines. Such steps, *inter alia*, include reorganisation of existing mines, opening of new underground mines and introduction of mechanised opencast mining operations.

(b) to (d). The extent of mechanisation in any mine has to be decided on the basis of a detailed study of the geominning conditions and the overall economics of such mechanised operations.

Names of some of the projects of BCCL in which mechanisation has been introduced/being introduced are given in the statement below.

Statement

S. Name of the Project
No.

1 2

1. Sudamdih

2. Moonidih

3. Katras

4. Begunia

5. Bhurungia

6. Bagaband XVII Bottom

7. Golukdih

8. North Amlabad

9. Bhalgora

10. Murulidih 20/21 Pits

11. Loyabad X seam

12. Burragarh

13. Lodna

14. Bagdigi

1	2
15. Badroochak	
16. Pootkee Balihari	
17. OCP Block II	
18. New Laikdih	
19. Bansdeopur	
20. Jamunia	
21. Bhowerah	
22. Damodar	
23. Gutway	

International Energy Conference

1143. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether at the International Energy Conference held recently, a view was expressed that through simple house keeping techniques, 15 per cent to 20 per cent of energy can be saved;

(b) whether this view had come from the Indian delegate; and

(c) if so, whether Government agree with this view and if so, what steps have been taken to implement it and the yearly saving it will make when implemented ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) to (c). The 13th Congress of the World Energy Conference held in France in October 1986 had a number of parallel technical sessions, Working Group meetings, round-table discussions and expert group meetings etc. and it is not possible to indicate which delegate might have expressed this view at that forum. It is, however, a general and well accepted view that simple house-keeping measures can yield 10-20% savings in energy use in the industrial sector. This has been

demonstrated by the studies carried out by National Productivity Council in a number of industries on behalf of Inter-Ministerial Working Group on Energy Conservation. Steps to implement these measures have to be taken by individual industrial units for which they are being guided through pamphlets/booklets etc. circulated by Deptt. of Coal, Central Electricity Authority, State Electricity Boards and Petroleum Conservation Research Association.

Proposal to Restrict Free Import of Polyester Staple Fibre

1144. DR. B.L. SHAILESH : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to impose a restriction on the free import of polyester staple fibre (PSF);

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the authorised PSF production capacity of the existing units, both in the private and public sectors, and fresh capacity likely to be created during the current Plan; and

(d) in the case of imposition of restriction on imports what measures Government propose to take so that the monopolists in the private sector producing PSF do not exploit the consumers by raising the price of PSF ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R.K. JAI-CHANDRA SINGH) : (a), (b) and (d). Import policy in such cases is determined from time to time having regard to demand supply balance etc. This is a continuous process.

(c) The present approved and installed capacities for the manufacture of Polyester Staple Fibre are as follows :

Total Approved Capacity (based on Industrial Licences/Letters of Intents)	Installed Capacity city
3,33,300 tonnes/ annum	90,000 tonnes per annum (Appr.)

Establishment of additional capacity for which industrial licences/letters of intents have been made will depend on the progress of work by entrepreneurs concerned. The gestation period of such projects is normally 3-4 years.

Repeal of Paper Control Order

1145. DR. B.L. SHAILESH : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 602 on 22 July, 1986 regarding recommendations for scrapping of Paper Control Order and state :

(a) whether Government have since decided to repeal the Paper Control Order; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and how far it will help the industry to raise production and the consumers to get paper at reasonable prices ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Indo-Soviet Cooperation in New Area of Industry

1146. SHRI D.N. REDDY : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal for India and Soviet Union to cooperate in a new area of industry; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC ENTERPRISES IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. K.K. TEWARY) : (a) and (b). In the continuing effort to seek new areas of production cooperation between India and the Soviet Union, some new areas were broadly identified by Indo Soviet Working Group on Machine Building and Production Co-operation. These are in an exploratory stage.

Deaths due to Imported Palmolein Oil in Gujarat

1147. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that some children were reported to have died in Gujarat in March, 1986 due to consumption of food prepared by imported palmolein oil;

(b) whether imported edible oil is supplied by the Centre to the States for distribution under public distribution system; and

(c) if so, whether the Union Government have investigated into the matter and their findings in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Central Government makes allocation of imported edible oils to States/ Union Territories for distribution to consumers under the Public Distribution System. The responsibility for further distribution is of the State Government.

(c) The Central Government have kept in constant touch with the Gujarat Government who are enquiring into the matter.

Shortage of Acitrom

1149. DR. CHINTA MOHAN :
SHRI TARLOCHAN SINGH
TUR :
SHRI MOHD. MAHFOOZ ALI
KHAN :
SHRI JAGANNATH PATT-
NAIK :
SHRI BALWANT SINGH
RAMOOWALIA :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be please to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that there is an acute shortage of Acitrom, a life saving drug for persons who have undergone heart surgery for valve replacements;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps being taken to remove the shortage of this life saving drug; and

(c) whether Government have received any complaints in this regard and if so, the action taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS (SHRI R.K. JAI-CHANDRA SINGH) : (a) Reports on shortage of Acitrom tablets were received from some State Drug Control Authorities and the public.

(b) and (c). The producer company M/s. S.G. Pharmaceuticals, Baroda have informed that there was some 'disruption' in production due to non-availability of intermediates required in the manufacture of the bulk drug. The company has now overcome the problems and based on this Ministry's advice, sufficient stocks were rushed to all parts of the country.

Bonus to Postal Employees

1150. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have announced 27 days bonus to all postal employees and 40 days bonus to employees of Department of Telecommunications; and

(b) if so, the reasons for sanctioning less bonus to the postal employees vis-a-vis employees of Department of Telecommunications ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Productivity-linked bonus to the employees of the Postal and Telecommunications Departments have been sanctioned on the basis of the formula applicable to their respective departments.

[Translation]

Proposals for foreign collaboration in U. P.

1151. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will

the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the number of projects to be implemented in U.P. with foreign collaboration, received during the last three years;

(b) the details of the proposal received and their present position, proposal-wise; and

(c) whether there has been undue delay in forwarding these proposals to the concerned foreign collaboration organisations ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b). The details of all approved foreign collaborations showing the names of Indian and foreign firms, item of manufacture and nature of collaboration are published on a monthly basis by the Indian Investment Centre as a supplement to its monthly news letter. Copies of these publications are sent regularly to the Parliament Library. As a matter of policy, specific information relating to individual proposals particularly in relation to financial details are not revealed in the public interest.

(c) As per the streamlined procedure of processing foreign collaboration proposals, every effort is being made to dispose of all the proposals within a period of 60 days.

[English]

Procurement of Paddy

1152. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Food Corporation of India is strictly following the prescribed limit of 18 per cent of moisture content while procuring paddy, particularly in Punjab as done in the last year; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL

SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Production and Import of Sugar

1153. **SHRI D.N. REDDY :**

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL :

Will the Minister of **FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES** be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been any increase in the sugar production in the country during the year 1985-86 as compared to 1984-85;

(b) if so, details thereof;

(c) the estimated production and consumption of sugar in 1986-87;

(d) whether it is proposed to import sugar in 1986-87 and if so, the quantity expected to be imported and the quantity imported upto September, 1986; and

(e) whether import of sugar is likely to be stopped in the near future in view of increase in domestic production ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The sugar production during the year 1985-86 (October-September) aggregated to 70.03 lakh tonnes (provisional) as against 61.44 lakh tonnes during the year 1984-85.

(c) The production and consumption of sugar in 1986-87 season (October-September) is estimated at about 75 lakh tonnes and 85 lakh tonnes respectively.

(d) and (e). A quantity of 5.05 lakh tonnes (Provisional) of sugar has been imported upto 30th September, 1986 during the financial year 1986-87. In view of the encouraging trend in sugar production, the proposal for further import of sugar, if any, may be considered at the appropriate time after taking into account the production/consumption trends during 1986-87 season.

Import of Edible Oil

1154. **PROF. K.V. THOMAS :**

SHRI YASHWANTRAO GADAKH PATIL :

Will the Minister of **FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES** be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity of edible oil imported during the last three years, year-wise; and

(b) the action taken to reduce the import of edible oil and saving in foreign [exchange expected thereby ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) The Import of edible oil during the last three financial years is as under :

Financial Year	Quantity imported (in lakh tonnes)	Value (Rs. in crores)
1983-84	14.09	846
1984-85	15.85	1309
1985-86	10.80	766 (Provisional)

(b) With a view to inducing farmers to increase the production of oilseeds, Government has kept import of edible oils, meant to bridge the gap between demand and supply of indigenous edible oils, at the minimum possible level. Various other measures have been taken to augment production of edible oils/oilseeds. Considerable savings in foreign exchange have been affected in 1985-86.

Demand of Superior Grade Coal

1155. **SHRI SOMNATH RATH :** Will the Minister of **ENERGY** be pleased to state :

(a) whether on account of massive industrialisation programme in the State of Orissa, there is a great demand of superior grade coal and whether the availability of this grade coal has gone down from 6,37,000 tonnes in 1976 to 3,79,000 tonnes in 1985;

(b) whether Coal India Limited has adequately planned to increase the production of superior grade coal in both the Coalfields of this State; and

(c) whether Coal India Limited proposes to earmark additional funds to open new projects to mine superior grade coal and for investment in better sand gathering and stowing facilities to increase production in the existing mines ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) to (c). Keeping in view the increased demand of superior grade coal in Orissa, Coal India Limited have planned an increase in the production of superior grade coal from the current level of about 25 lakh tonnes per annum to 29 lakh tonnes in 89-90 and 36 lakh tonnes in 1994-95. For achieving this steps have been taken for improvement of production from the existing collieries and also to take up new projects. The facilities for sand gathering and also the sand stowing arrangements for the existing collieries are also being improved by providing additional inputs. Necessary funds are being provided for undertaking improvements in the existing systems as well as for opening up of new projects.

Shifting of cement plant from Rourkela to Madhya Pradesh

1156. SHRI HARIHAR SOREN :
SHRI V.S. KRISHNA IYER :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the slag cement plant earlier proposed to be set up at Rourkela by the Steel Authority has been shifted to Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, the reasons for shifting the venue of the cement plant;

(c) the amount already spent on this plant at Rourkela; and

(d) the name of the place in Madhya Pradesh finally selected for its location ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT

IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (d). No, Sir. The Steel Authority of India Ltd., (SAIL) were issued a Letter of Intent in August 1984 for setting up a capacity of 2.14 million tonnes per annum of Slag Cement on split location basis at Chilhati (Madhya Pradesh) and Rourkela (Orissa). It was later-on decided that this project would be executed by the Cement Corporation of India Limited. However, due to financial constraints, the Cement Corporation could not go ahead and, therefore, the Letter of Intent has since been cancelled in August, 1986.

Super Thermal Power Station in Bihar

1157. SHRI VIJOY KUMAR YADAV : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether a Super Thermal Power Station is under construction at Biharsharif in the State of Bihar;

(b) the total cost and targetted period of completion of this scheme; and

(c) how far and in what way Bihar will benefit from this scheme ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Does not arise.

Power to Kerala from Ramagundam Thermal Station, Andhra Pradesh

1158. SHRI SODE RAMIAH : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether any arrangements have been made to enable Kerala to get its share of power from the Ramagundam Thermal Station in Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) and (b). With

the commissioning of 300 KV Cuddapah-Bangalore single circuit transmission line in July, 1986, there is no constraint in transferring Kerala's share of power from Ramagundam thermal power station.

Power Theft in Delhi

1159. SHRI DHARAM PAL SINGH MALIK :

SHRI SUBHASH YADAV :

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether there have been thefts of power in the capital on a very large scale;

(b) the number of power theft cases detected by Delhi Electricity Supply Undertaking during the last three years; and

(c) whether Government propose to declare theft of power a cognisable offence and if not, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) During 1986-87 (upto October, 1986), 110 cases of theft of electricity have been detected by DESU.

(b) The year-wise figures of the cases of theft of electricity detected by DESU during the last three years are as under :

Year	No. of cases
1983-84	32
1984-85	48
1985-86	344

(c) Necessary amendment to Indian Electricity Act, 1910 has already been made making theft of energy a cognizable offence. These provisions are also applicable to the Union territory of Delhi.

Gas and Oil located by ONGC

1160. SHRI DHARAM PAL SINGH MALIK :

SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY :

SHRI SUBHASH YADAV :

SHRI V.S. KRISHNA IYER :

SHRI C. SAMBU ;

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the places where gas and oil has been located by the Oil and Natural Gas Commission during the last one year;

(b) quantum of gas and oil likely to be obtained from these new locations; and

(c) the money spent on each project ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : (a) to (c).

Basin Area	Well No.	Cost (In Rs. crores)
Western	B-172-1	4.06
Offshore	R-71-1 } CD-1 } CA-1 } B-42-1 }	Yet to be compiled
Cambay Basin	Karjisan-1	1.31
	Pakhajan-1	3.87
Krishna-Godavari	Kaza-1	3.99
	Tatipaka-1	12.63
	Kaikalur-3	Yet to be compiled.

The extent of these finds will be known only after further delineation/exploratory drilling.

[Translation]

Waiting List for Telephone Connections at Almora (U.P.)

1161. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state ;

(a) whether people are in the waiting list for a long time to get telephone connections from Automatic Telephone Exchange at Almora in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the number of persons in the aforesaid waiting list;

(c) whether Government propose to increase the capacity of this exchange during the current financial year; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) The applicants for telephones are on waiting List since 10-5-1984.

(b) 50 persons are on the waiting list as on 31-10-1986.

(c) There is no proposal to increase the capacity of the existing telephone exchange during the current financial year. However, there is a proposal to expand the exchange by 128 lines during the 7th Plan period.

(d) The present telephone exchange is a Meta-conta rural (MCR) type and equipment is required to be imported which takes time.

Supply of Iodised Salt to Uttar Pradesh

1162. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the total quantity of Iodised salt supplied to Uttar Pradesh during the last two years;

(b) whether this quantity is far less than the requirements of the State; and

(c) if so, the steps being taken by Government to increase the supply of Iodised salt to this State ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) Quantity of iodised salt supplied to Uttar Pradesh during the last two years is given below :

1984	1985	1986 (Upto September)
31,700 tonnes	28,100 tonnes	51,200 tonnes

(b) Percentage of supply of iodised salt against the requirements of the Government of Uttar Pradesh is given below :

1984	1985	1986 (Upto September)
59%	52%	75%

(c) The short supplies are due to short indenting by the local traders for iodised salt. The State Government has been addressed to direct the nominees and other Salt Traders to lift full quotas of iodised salt from the different sources where iodisation units are located. They have also been requested to ensure that non-iodised salt does not infiltrate into the goitre endemic areas, thus reducing the demands of iodised salt.

Extension of S.T.D. Facilities through Public Call Offices

1163. SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to extend STD facility to common people through Public Call Offices in the country;

(b) if so, the places where this service has been introduced;

(c) whether Government propose to start with STD service through Public Call Offices in all those cities where STD facility is already available;

(d) if so, the details in this regard; and

(e) if not, the difficulties being faced in introducing this facility ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) :

(a) Yes Sir. However STD Public Telephones are not sanctioned as a matter of policy at all stations having STD facility. They are provided subject to technical feasibility especially with regard to metering and expected use.

(b) There are quite a good number of such STD Public Telephones working in many States.

(c) No Sir, the position has been explained in (a) above.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) At present S.T.D. Public Telephone can be only from Departmental Offices like Telegraph Offices and Exchanges because charges are to be collected by an attendant in accordance with meter reading. Not every where can this mater be provided due to operating technical limitation.

Coin-operated STD Public Telephone are being planned. They may be available in large quantities in the later part of the 7th Plan (1985-1990).

[English]

Waiting List for Telephone Connections in Delhi Telephone Exchanges

1164. SHRI HARIHAR SOREN : Will the Minister of COMMUNICA-

TIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of applicants waiting for telephone connections under different telephone exchange in Delhi under different schemes;

(b) how many telephone connections are expected to be given by the end of 1986; and

(c) the reasons why the progress in providing telephone connections is very slow ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) The number of applicants on the waiting list under different telephone exchanges in Delhi, category-wise as on 1.10.1986 is given in the Statement below.

(b) A target of 17,800 net DELs has been set up from April to December, 1986. However, a total of 34,000 DELs (Net) is proposed to be provided during 1986-87.

(c) The progress of giving new telephone connection during this financial year (upto October, 86) has, in fact, been such faster. A total of 21500 connections have been provided compared to the laid down target of 11800. It is also higher than the achievement during the corresponding period of last year.

Statement

Position as on 1.10.1986

Sl. No.	Telephone Exchange	Exchange Code	Exchange-wise Waiting list			Total
			OYT	SPL	GENL	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
I. East Delhi						
1.	SHE-I	20	360	670	6552	7,582
2.	SHD	21,24	903	1429	14,458	16,790
3.	DG	26,27	270	—	7,615	7,885
4.	ID	51,52,77,73	70	—	9,752	9,822

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
II North Delhi						
5.	TH	23,25,291	—	—	4,177	4,177
6.	SK	71,74	1227	1287	27,798	30,312
7.	BDL	746	33	87	855	975
8.	ALP	745	7	3	87	97
9.	NRL	747	3	6	304	313
III. Central Delhi						
10.	JP	31,32,34,35	258	46	1,354	1,658
11.	SBN	301	136	—	576	712
12.	RP	38	421	81	819	1,321
13.	JB	61,62,69	1063	453	6,484	8,000
14.	KB	331	885	49	1,098	2,032
IV. South Delhi						
15.	OKH	63	1081	632	3,494	5,207
16.	HK	65,66	170	31	7,130	7,331
17.	CHY	60,67	505	326	4,634	5,465
18.	NP	641,642,644	294	50	13,303	13,647
V. West Delhi						
19.	KB	56,58,571	—	—	9,484	9,484
20.	RG	50,53,541,543	—	11	24,283	24,294
21.	GANTT	39	108	25	522	655
22.	JIP	55	251	235	4,975	5,461
23.	NJP	806	24	7	330	361
24.	NJL	87	82	138	1,199	1,419
			8151	5566	151283	165000

Problems of Alcohol Industry

1165. SHRI HARIHAR SOREN : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Alcohol Industry is facing many problems impeding its growth;

(b) if so, what are these major problems as reported to his Ministry; and

(c) the steps taken to remove these problems and help the growth of Alcohol Industry ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R.K. JAICHANDRA SINGH) : (a) to (c). The All India Distillers' Association and U.P. Distillers' Association have recently indicated the major problem as the closure of manufacturing activities by Distilleries in U.P. due to poor take off of alcohol owing to hike in export pass fee by U.P. Government. Suggestions have also been made for controlling khandsari Molasses so as to improve the availability of molasses for distilleries, banning export of molasses, allowing export of alcohol and increasing the prices of alcohol.

2. The Central Government has already advised U.P. Government to rationalise the duty structure on alcohol. All State Governments have also been advised, from time to time, to bring khandsari molasses under control. The export of molasses is generally not permitted unless there is a substantial surplus. Similarly, export of alcohol can be considered only when the availability is more than the demand. The price of alcohol is fixed from time to time on the basis of a Cost Study.

Modernisation of Telephone Exchanges in Idukki District

1166. PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the names of telephone exchanges that are proposed to be modernised in the Idukki District during the current financial year;

(b) whether any preliminary work has been done in this regard; and

(c) the time by which the work is scheduled to be completed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEY) : (a) All Exchanges in Idukki Distt. are of automatic type. There is no plan at present to further modernise these.

(b) and (c). Not applicable in view of (a) above.

Voluntary Retirement Schemes in Public Sector Undertakings

1167. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH :

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA :

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the public sector industries managements are being asked to work out voluntary retirement schemes to reduce surplus manpower;

(b) if so, whether surplus manpower in each of the public sector industries has been estimated; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC ENTERPRISES IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. K.K. TEWARY) : (a) Policy parameters on the basis of which Voluntary Retirement Schemes could be introduced by the public enterprises to reduce their surplus manpower are being examined in the Government and suitable guidelines would be issued to them in due course.

(b) and (c). Firm figures on the surplus manpower in each of the public sector enterprise are not readily available. Relevant information is being collected and would be placed on the Table of the House.

Guidelines regarding Appointment of Chief Justices of High Courts

1168. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH :

SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI :

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE :

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) the guidelines followed in the appointment of Chief Justices of High Courts;

(b) whether there was any complaint from the Bar or from the Bench stating that the guidelines were disregarded in the appointment of Chief Justice of a High Court recently; and

(c) if so, the action taken to remedy the situation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ) : (a) The Government have accepted the policy of having Chief Justices of High Courts from outside. This policy was formulated after consultation with the Chief Justice of India and announced in the press note dated 28.1.1983. A copy is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See. No LT-3224/86]

(b) Some Bar and Judicial Service Associations expressed their concern over the delay in the appointment of a regular Chief Justice in the Delhi High Court.

(c) The appointment of a regular Chief Justice in the Delhi High Court in terms of the policy guidelines was notified on 23.9.1986.

Raising of Power Generation Capacity

1169. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether India is facing acute power problem in the country;

(b) if so, the details in this regard and when it would be over;

(c) whether Government propose to raise power generation capacity of the existing plants in the country; and

(d) if so, the details in this regard and if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) and (b). Statewise power supply position during October, 1986 is given in the Statement below. Efforts are being made to considerably ameliorate the power situation by the end of Seventh Five-Year Plan, subject to availability of funds.

(c) and (d). To augment the power generation capacity from the existing plants, a Centrally sponsored renovation and modernisation scheme covering 32 thermal power stations is being implemented at a cost of Rs. 500 crores.

Statement

Actual Power Supply Position for October, 1986

(All figures in MU)

Region/ State/ System	Requi- rement	October, 1986		
		Avail- ability	Short- age	(%)
1	2	3	4	5
Northern Region				
Chandigarh	34	32	2	5.9
Delhi	465	465	0	0

1	2	3	4	5
Haryana	505	427	78	15.4
Himachal Pradesh	79	79	0	.0
Jammu and Kashmir	169	136	33	19.5
Punjab incl. NFF	901	898	3	.3
Rajasthan	640	569	71	11.1
Uttar Pradesh	1575	1376	199	12.6
Western Region				
Gujarat	1450	1381	69	4.8
M.P.	1123	1123	0	.0
Maharashtra incl. Goa	2540	2449	91	3.6
Southern Region				
Andhra Pradesh	1314	1314	0	.0
Karnataka	1164	900	264	22.7
Kerala	467	467	0	.0
Tamil Nadu	1307	1249	58	4.4
Eastern Region				
Bihar	405	280	125	30.9
D.V.C.	619	512	107	17.3
Orissa	554	461	93	16.8
West Bengal	723	622	101	14.0
N. Eastern Region	170	163	7	4.1
All India	16204	14903	1301	8.0

Declaration of Ganjam as 'No Industry' District

1170. SHRI SOMNATH RATH :
Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be
pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that there is
practically little industrial activity in
Ganjam district Orissa;

(b) whether Government are consi-
dering any proposal to declare it as a 'no
industry' district; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL
DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF
INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNA-

CHALAM) : (a) There are a number of medium scale industries existing in the Ganjam district of Orissa besides 1698 SSI Units.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) As only the districts having no large or medium scale industries are identified as 'No Industry Districts' Ganjam district is not eligible for inclusion in the list of 'No Industry District'.

Abolition of State Legislative Councils

1171. SHRI RAM DHAN : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) how many resolutions for abolition of Legislative Councils were received during the last five years; and

(b) the names of Legislative Councils abolished during that period ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ) : (a) Three

resolutions were received, out of which two were from the Legislative Assembly of Andhra Pradesh and one from the Legislative Assembly of Tamil Nadu.

(b) The Councils abolished are :

(i) Andhra Pradesh Legislative Council; and

(ii) Tamil Nadu Legislative Council.

[Translation]

Distribution of Kerosene Oil to States

1172. SHRI K.N. PRADHAN : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state the quantity of kerosene oil supplied to each State during the period from April, 1986 to September, 1986, month-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : A statement giving the requisite information is given below.

Statement

Statewise Month-wise Kerosene Supplies made during the period from April to September, 1986

(Figures in Tonnes)

S. No.	Name of State/ Union Territory	April 1986	May 1986	June 1986	July 1986	Aug. 1986	Sept. 1986
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	32861	32522	33232	37129	36579	38154
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	734	740	663	723	727	776
3.	Andaman and Nicobar Island	202	230	233	241	242	303
4.	Assam	16672	16903	15985	16446	16772	17925
5.	Bihar	27148	28592	27133	31188	29380	28555
6.	Chandigarh	1182	1199	1226	1336	1350	1334
7.	Dadra and N. Haveli	300*	283*	330*	418*	425*	442*

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
8.	Delhi	14165	13634	13240	14501	14673	14963
9.	Gujarat	48289	48298	47944	48158	47475	48866
10.	Goa, Daman and Diu.	1502@	1520@	1526@	1710@	1726@	1597@
11.	Haryana	9890	9296	9295	10749	9452	9742
12.	Himachal Pradesh	2087	2008	1936	2240	2258	2344
13.	Jammu and Kashmir	3639	3587	3424	4006	3994	4056
14.	Karnataka	25614	26520	26421	29432	28857	29098
15.	Kerala	14758	15557	14863	16234	16147	16880
16.	Madhya Pradesh	22059	23097	24309	21722	22274	22734
17.	Maharashtra	88994	88915	88852	96039	95233	95488
18.	Manipur	1490	1389	1245	1305	1207	1195
19.	Meghalaya	1061	1098	1013	1137	1188	1167
20.	Mizoram	430	387	327	389	443	410
21.	Nagaland	767	761	711	660	725	789
22.	Orissa	9532	9809	9120	9945	9743	9350
23.	Punjab	19543	19557	19467	21698	21393	21426
24.	Pondicherry	928	882	887	915	910	930
25.	Rajasthan	14767	14463	14582	15151	15351	15218
26.	Sikkim	627	724	635	705	829	415
27.	Tamil Nadu	39710	39370	40227	42205	42219	42399
28.	Tripura	1258	1255	1446	1482	1267	1334
29.	Uttar Pradesh	55223	56018	54458	57142	57143	57054
30.	West Bengal	46531	46909	47416	45101	46089	45769
31.	Lakshadweep	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
Total		501963	505523	502146	530107	526061	530713

*Including supplies made to Daman and Diu.

@Excluding supplies made to Daman and Diu.

N.A. Stands for 'Not Available'.

[English]

Expenditure on Maintenance of Buffer Stock of Foodgrains

1173. SHRI NITYANANDA MISRA : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) the yearly expenditure involved in maintaining buffer stock of foodgrains in the country;

(b) how much of the stock can be lessened after allotment of the quantity required for consumption to State Governments;

(c) the norms followed in this regard in different countries; and

(d) the steps being taken to reduce the excess stock now being kept for any emergency, public distribution system or schemes for poverty alleviation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) Expenditure incurred by the Food Corporation of India on maintenance of buffer stocks of foodgrains for last two years was as under :

Year	(Rs. in crores)
1984-85	497.94
1985-86	517.57

(b) Total distribution of foodgrains in various States/Union Territories and others upto September, 1986 amounted to 13.47 million tonnes as against 11.16 million tonnes during the corresponding period in 1985. The stock position from time to time depends on the inflow *i.e.* procurement, and outflow *i.e.* allocations/offtake, which is continuous.

(c) and (d). The norms in different countries depend on the local practices and prevailing conditions. To lessen the stocks to the desirable limit, the Government have liberalised the allocations of foodgrains for public distribution. In addition, foodgrains

are being provided for rural employment schemes and also for distribution at specially subsidised rates to the people in the tribal areas and in welfare schemes for women and children. Food Corporation of India has also been authorised to sell wheat/rice in the open market. Besides, export of wheat and wheat products and limited quantities of rice is permitted.

Discussions with State for Development of Backward Areas

1174. SHRI MURLIDHAR MANE : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Directorate General of Technical Development has started discussions with State Governments in regard to development of backward regions in the country;

(b) if so, whether such a discussion has been held with Government of Maharashtra; and

(c) if so, the outcome of the discussion ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (c). It is the policy of the Government to promote industrialisation of backward areas. In order to understand the progress made and also to promote fast development of backward areas DGTD proposes to hold discussions with various State authorities. First such meeting was held in Srinagar in September, 1986.

There are no regular planned meetings. However, it is DGTD's intention to meet as many entrepreneurs as possible from time to time.

So far no such meeting has been organised in Maharashtra. The DGTD regional office at Bombay established recently is continuously inter-acting with the State authorities of Maharashtra, Gujarat and Goa, Daman and Diu to assist the entrepreneurs.

**Indo-U.S. Joint Ventures in the
Telecommunications Field**

1175. SHRI H.N. NANJE GOWDA :
SHRI MOHANBHAI PATEL :
SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL :
SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether U.S. Exim Bank is prepared to extend credit for Indo-U.S. joint ventures in the Communications field; and

(b) whether it is the first time that leading U.S. companies have offered collaboration in the manufacture of telecommunication equipments ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) The Exim Bank of USA has offered export credit financing to support sales of U.S. technology, services and equipment in the telecommunications field.

(b) No, Sir. ITT which is a leading U.S. Company has collaborated in manufacture of telecommunication equipment through its subsidiaries in Belgium and Italy.

Power Cuts

1176. SHRI N. DENNIS : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether round the year power cut of 20 per cent to 25 per cent is being thought of in place of the current practice of increasing or decreasing the rate of energy cuts;

(b) whether State authorities have been talking about self-sufficiency in the power by turn of the century based on certain assumptions; and

(c) if so, whether any guidelines have been given or are proposed to be given by Union Government to States in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) The quantum and duration of power cuts/restrictions are decided by State Governments keeping in view the availability and demand for power in the State.

(b) and (c). The power position by the end of the century would, *inter alia*, depend on the power sector outlay and programme to be finalised in the VIIIth and IXth Plan. In order to improve the power situation, State authorities are being requested from time to time to expedite commissioning of on-going projects, improve utilisation of existing capacity, reduce T and D losses, implement energy conservation and demand management measures, etc.

**Technology Supply affected due to India's
non-membership of Paris Convention
on patents**

1177. DR. CHINTA MOHAN : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether there are any specific cases where technology supply to India has been affected because of India's non-membership of the Paris Convention on Patents;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the result of initiatives taken by India for securing revision of Paris Convention to suit the needs of developing countries ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b). No such case has come to the notice of the Ministry of Industry.

(c) The proposals for revision of the Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property are being discussed in the Diplomatic Conference, which has so far, held four sessions.

**Report of Expert Group on Safety in
Chemical and Petro-chemical
Industry**

**1178. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT :
SHRI MURLIDHAR MANE :**

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the expert Group on safety in the chemicals and petro-chemicals industry has submitted its report to Government;

(b) if so, the recommendations made by this Group and action taken to implement them; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to identify the areas of existing installations in this industry which are having high hazard potential ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R.K. JAI-CHANDRA SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Government had set-up the Inter-Ministrial Group to consider and review the measures required to be taken for control of hazards in chemicals and petro-chemical units. This Group commissioned surveys and inspections of the public sector chemicals and petro-chemical units and selected such private sector units through expert groups for the purpose of evolving guidelines and recommendations on safety, based on observations relating to existing practices. These guidelines are expected to provide technical references to the management as well as statutory inspecting agencies for ensuring safety in chemicals and petro-chemical units. The report also contains certain general recommendations like the need for safety training programmes, multi-disciplinary in-house safety units, the need to conform to specified guidelines on transportation and disposal of chemicals, the need to encourage investment in safety etc.

Copies of the report have already been sent to some of the concerned authorities and industry associations for appropriate action. The report has also recommended

that there is need for streamlining and coordination of efforts for which purpose it had proposed the setting-up of a National Board on Industrial Safety and Hazards. A final decision is yet to be taken on this recommendation.

Supply of Kerosene to Kerala

1179. PROF. K.V. THOMAS : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity of kerosene allotted to Kerala to be supplied through public distribution system during the current year so far;

(b) whether Kerala Government has requested for more quota; and

(c) if so, steps taken to meet their demand ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : (a) While the overall allocation of kerosene to various States/Union Territories including Kerala is made by the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, its further distribution to different sections/areas within the State is done by the concerned State Government/Union Territory Administration. Month-wise kerosene allocations made to Kerala State during the current year (1986) are as under :

Figures in tonnes)

Month	Allocation
1	2
January, 86	17240
February, 86	17240
March, 86	15780
April, 86	15280
May, 86	15280
June, 86	15280

1	2
July, 86	15945
August, 86	15945
September, 86	17000
October, 86	17157
November, 86	19312
December, 86	12312

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Allocation for the Winter Block comprising the months of November, 1986 to February, 1987, has been made at an enhanced rate of 19312 tonnes per month as against 17240 tonnes allocated for the corresponding period of previous year.

[Translation]

Opening of Petrol and Diesel Pumps in Azamgarh, U.P.

1180. SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of petrol and diesel pumps proposed to be opened in Azamgarh district of Uttar Pradesh and whether their locations have been selected;

(b) if so, the names of the places where petrol pumps are to be opened;

(c) the names of the places out of them for which applications have already been invited and the time by which the petrol pumps will start functioning; and

(d) if applications have not been invited so far, the time by which this will be done ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : (a) The oil industry proposes to open 7 petrol and diesel pumps in Azamgarh District of Uttar Pradesh.

(b) The names of these locations are as under :

1. Lalganj
2. Ghosi
3. Maharajganj
4. Saraimeer
5. Majhwara
6. Bilariaganj
7. Brahamothan-Ki-Chungi.

(c) and (d). In respect of locations at Ghosi and Maharajganj and Majhwara, Letters of Intent have been issued to the selected candidates. The Oil Marketing companies are taking action to advertise the other locations. However, in view of the various steps which precede the allotment of a dealership/distributorship, it is not possible to indicate a definite time limit by which these dealerships will start functioning.

Setting up of Industry in Azamgarh District of U P.

1181. SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Azamgarh district in Uttar Pradesh is an industrially backward area;

(b) if so, whether Government are considering any proposal for setting up a factory of H.M.T. Ltd., or I.T.I., Ltd., in this area in order to remove its backwardness;

(c) if so, by what time; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) Azamgarh has been identified as a Category 'C' industrially backward district.

(b) to (d). Investments in Public Sector undertakings are of a basic character and are determined on a variety of techno-economic considerations. Subject to these considerations, preference for location of such industries is given to backward areas. Government have not received any proposal for setting up of a factory of H.M.T. Ltd., or I.T.I. Ltd., in Azamgarh District of Uttar Pradesh.

[English]

**Policy on Setting up of New Sugar
Factories**

1182. SHRI DINESH SINGH : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have finalised their policy regarding the establishment of new sugar factories; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Losses in Coal India Ltd.

1183. DR. B.L. SHAILESH : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Coal India Limited is likely to continue to incur losses till the end of the Seventh Plan period; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps being taken to meet the situation ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) and (b). The profit or loss of Coal India Limited will depend on various factors such as cost of production which includes level of wages, cost of inputs, cost of machinery and other capital equipment, return on capital as well as the administered prices of coal,

All out efforts are being made to reduce the cost of production by improving the efficiency of operations, by reducing administrative expenses, by better utilisation of men and machinery and by introduction of better management practices and technology.

**Private Sector Involved In Promoting
Telephone Services**

1184. SHRI S.M. GURADDI :
SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJU :
SHRI JAGANNATH PATTNAIK :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Telecommunications Department has proposed to privatise some of services including the sale of telephone instruments wiring at the subscribers residence and installation of EAPBX facilities at business premises;

(b) if so, whether decision was taken to help any heavy investment area to the private sector which would release resources for other vital DOT projects; and

(c) whether private sector has agreed to this and to what extent the private sector has been involved in promoting the telephone services ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) The Department of Telecommunications has already permitted the purchase and installation of type approved PABXs by the subscribers. They can also purchase the type approved telephone instruments for use as a second instruments. Wiring at the subscribers' premises is also permissible to be done by the subscribers.

(b) To the extent the customers premises equipment is purchased and provided by the subscribers themselves, the capital funds saved by the Department could be utilised for other projects of the Department.

(c) A number of private, Joint Sector and Public Sector Companies have been given letters of intent to manufacture telephone instruments, teleprinters, PABX, etc.

**High Power Committee on Public
Distribution System**

1185. SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have appointed a high power committee to study the functioning of the public distribution system in metropolitan cities and to suggest a comprehensive and efficient management system for the public distribution system; and

(b) if so, the composition and the terms of reference of this committee ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The composition and the terms of reference of the Committee are given in the statement below.

Statement

The Composition of the Study Group on Public Distribution System for the metropolitan cities is as follows :

1. Smt. Pratibha Patil.
Member of Parliament (Rajya Sabha)
2. Shri M. Palaniyandi,
Member of Parliament (Rajya Sabha)
3. Shri Bhanu Pratap Singh,
Member of Parliament (Lok Sabha)
4. Smt. Phulrenu Guha,
Member of Parliament (Lok Sabha)
5. Shri S.K. Govil.
Consultant, Planning Commission, New Delhi.
6. Shri Surinder Singh,
Secretary, Food and Civil Supplies Deptt., Government of Uttar Pradesh, Lucknow.
7. Shri C.D. Arha,
Secretary, Food and Civil Supplies Deptt., Government of Andhra Pradesh, Hyderabad.
8. Shri D.K. Singh,
Joint Secretary, Deptt. of Civil Supplies, Ministry of Food and Civil Supplies, New Delhi.

The Terms of Reference of the Study Group are :

- (i) To study the present status of the functioning of the Public Distribution System in the metropolitan Cities;

- (ii) To suggest a comprehensive package for ensuring efficient management of the Public Distribution System in Metropolitan Cities.

Proposal for Production of High-Tech Products by Indian Petro-Chemicals Corporation Ltd.

1186. SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian Petro-Chemicals Corporation Limited has submitted any proposals to the Government for the production in a phased manner of several new high-tech products; and

(b) if so, what are the products planned and what would be the additional capital cost of the expansion/diversification ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R.K. JAI-CHANDRA SINGH) : (a) and (b). Indian Petro-Chemicals Corporation Limited has submitted a proposal to the Government for the setting up of R and D Pilot Plant of 12 TPA capacity for the manufacture of Carbon Fibre and Associated Product Application Development Centre. It is estimated that the capital cost of the project will be around Rs. 23 crores. The carbon fibre will be used in the high technology areas like defence, space, aviation, automotive, etc.

Loss to Neyveli Lignite Corporation Ltd. due to late deliveries by certain Firms

1187. DR. V. VENKATESH : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether M.A.N. of West Germany and WMI both have failed to pay the sum of Rs. 1.18 crores so far to the Neyveli Lignite Corporation Limited, Neyveli, Tamil Nadu towards the defective Bucket Wheel Excavators of 1400 litres capacity each;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken against the management of Neyveli Lignite Corporation Limited for their failure to adopt necessary measures earlier against the said firms ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) and (b). A claim has been made on M.A.N./WMI for Rs. 1.18 crores towards the cost of rehabilitation of the damaged Bucket Wheel Excavator. The claim was made soon after rehabilitation of the Excavator. M.A.N. have not so far accepted to pay this amount.

(c) Does not arise.

Construction of Warehouses

1188. SHRI AMARSINH RATHAWA : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to construct more warehouses in public sector or in private sector during the current year; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) and (b). The Food Corporation of India, Central Warehousing Corporation and 16 State Warehousing

Corporations together are expected to construct additional storage capacity of 13.65 lakh tonnes during the current year in the public sector. Of this capacity, 7.00 lakh tonnes is proposed to be constructed by the Food Corporation of India, 2.15 lakh tonnes by the Central Warehousing Corporation and 4.50 lakh tonnes by the State Warehousing Corporations.

Plant Load Factor in Power Generating Projects

1189. SHRI GADADHAR SAHA : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state the details of the plant load factor in various power generating projects in the country; State-wise during the last three years, year-wise and project-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : A statement showing the State-wise and Project-wise Plant Load Factor of thermal power stations during 1983-84, 1984-85 and 1985-86 is given below.

Statement

Plant Load Factor of the Thermal Power Stations from 1983-84 to 1985-86

Thermal Power Station	PLF(%)		
	1983-84	1984-85	1985-86
1	2	3	4
Central Sector	54.8	55.4	61.9
Badarpur	48.7	47.9	46.0
Singrauli STPS	55.7	59.3	68.8
Korba STPS	62.7	52.2	74.4
Ramagundam STPS	—	57.4	72.1
Neyveli	74.2	77.0	74.9
Chandrapura (DVC)	54.3	52.8	47.1
Durgapur (DVC)	35.0	40.3	52.6

1	2	3	4
Bokaro (DVC)	54.0	51.0	51.8
Chota (Railways)	45.8	49.1	N.A.
Private Sector	64.1	63.0	57.5
Ahmedabad Electric Co.	75.6	71.4	66.3
Trombay (Tata Elec. Co.)	75.1	65.7	54.8
Calcutta Elec. Supply Compu.	52.7	54.0	55.3
State Electricity Boards	44.1	44.9	49.2
DESU	47.7	58.9	63.8
I.P. Station	50.2	61.7	63.8
Rajghat	23.2	30.6	—
HSEB	31.1	34.7	32.8
Faridabad Extn.	27.8	27.9	25.2
Panipat	32.6	39.7	39.0
RSEB	72.3	57.2	57.5
Kota	72.3	57.4	57.5
PSEB	57.0	64.3	58.9
Bhatinda	57.0	61.9	60.5
Ropar	—	79.4	57.0
UPSEB	35.1	31.6	37.3
Obra	35.7	29.7	41.6
Panki	46.8	48.8	34.2
Harduaganj 'A'	20.5	32.0	23.5
Harduaganj 'B' and "C"	36.0	29.6	34.8
R.P.H. Kanpur	24.5	24.8	14.2
Paricha	—	2.8	28.2
Others (U.P.)	7.6	24.9	N.A.
GEB	55.3	54.0	53.2
Dhuvaran	69.0	66.2	57.7

1	2	3	4
Ukai	49.6	50.5	49.9
Gandhi Nagar	63.1	39.8	69.0
Wanakbori	37.2	59.2	47.3
Utran	64.4	59.7	54.3
GT and Others	12.4	9.9	N.A.
MSEB	51.0	46.6	54.8
Nasik	51.1	51.9	63.9
Koradi	44.0	36.0	62.0
Khaparkheda	20.2	18.7	32.0
Paras	43.9	34.4	45.9
Chandrapur	—	45.2	44.7
Bhusawal	47.0	45.7	59.7
Parli	69.9	74.2	67.0
Uran (GT)	75.6	61.6	27.4
Others	46.8	27.9	N.A.
MPEB	53.1	51.7	53.3
Satpura	52.4	48.5	51.7
Korba I	55.3	55.1	54.9
Korba II	64.7	44.3	57.6
Korba III	35.8	56.2	57.8
Amarkantak	59.2	65.9	63.1
Korba West	22.12	29.1	45.7
APSEB	54.6	54.4	64.8
Kothagudem A	58.2	58.9	54.0
Kothagudem B	24.2	32.0	36.0
Kothagudem C	28.5	38.2	54.9
Vijayawada	84.2	77.4	88.9
Ramagundem B	72.7	50.1	90.4

1	2	3	4
Nellore	55.4	44.6	45.3
Others	3.7	1.7	N.A.
Karnataka	Raichur	—	33.5
TNEB	39.4	49.0	56.5
Ennore	27.9	36.2	52.2
Tuticorin	50.5	62.0	65.5
Basin Bridge	14.0	14.2	3.6
BSEB	32.8	30.5	34.1
Patratu	30.3	33.0	40.0
Barauni	15.57	21.3	17.0
Muzaffarpur	—	—	42.8
OSEB	33.3	32.2	31.7
Talcher	33.3	32.2	31.7
WBSEB	35.9	36.5	42.2
Bandel	44.9	48.3	51.3
Santalalidih	27.4	24.7	28.6
Kolaghat	—	17.7	50.3
Gouripore	11.8	12.2	N.A.
Gas Turbine	—	—	N.A.
DPL	30.3	28.7	26.3
ASEB	34.2	29.6	27.5
Chandrapur	49.7	35.0	40.3
Namrup	38.5	38.2	46.6
Bongaigaon	19.5	15.9	1.9
Gas Turbine	47.1	36.4	40.1
All India	47.9	50.1	52.4

Telephone Bills Arrears

1190. DR. A.K. PATEL : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state the total amount of telephone bills outstanding against each of the ex-Ministers and MPs, and ex-Chairman of Government bodies as on September 30, 1986 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : The information regarding the total amount of arrears of telephone bills outstanding against each of the ex-Ministers and ex-Members of parliament as on September 30, 1986 has been called for from the Units and will be placed on the Table of the House as early as possible.

As regards the outstanding against ex-chairman of Government bodies, it may be mentioned that the records of the department are maintained telephone number-wise. There is no separate category in the name of ex-Chairmen of Government bodies. As such furnishing of details of outstanding telephone bills in respect of Ex-Chairman of Government bodies may not be possible.

[*Translation*]

**Setting up of Telephone Exchange at
Udyog Nagar in Pira Garhi
Delhi**

1191. SHRI BHARAT SIGNH : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there are telephone exchanges for Najafgarh, Nangloi, Badli in rural Delhi and if so, the reasons why calls from Delhi to these areas and *vice-versa* are not materialised;

(b) whether site has been selected for setting up a telephone Exchange at Udyog Nagar in Piragarhi near Nangloi;

(c) if so the time by which its building will be constructed;

(d) whether many persons have got their names registered for domestic tele-

phone connections from Nangloi Telephone Exchange;

(e) if so, by what time telephone connections will be provided to them; and

(f) the time by which telephone facility will be made available in all the villages in rural Delhi ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) Telephone exchanges of MAX-II strowger type are working at Najafgarh, Nangloi and Badli.

The Department is seized of the problems being faced by the subscribers in getting calls from the above exchanges to Delhi and *vice-versa*. This is mainly due to heavy traffic. In order to solve the problems, it is proposed to provide high grade interexchange junctions through Pulse Code Modulation system between Shakti Nagar-Badli, Najafgarh Rajouri Garden. Nangloi-Rajouri-Garden and Najafgarh Janpath and replace the above exchanges by electronic telephone exchanges.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The building is likely to be completed by the middle of 1987.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) Telephone connections are expected to be provided to the applicants by the end of the Seventh Plan.

(f) Subject to availability of resources, which are very meagre at present, it is expected that the demand pending upto 31.3.86 will be met by the end of Seventh Plan.

[*English*]

**Proposal to set up Acrylic Staple Fibre
Project at Cuttack in Orissa**

1192. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have a proposal to set up an Acrylic Staple Fibre project at Cuttack in Orissa;

(b) whether Industrial Promotion and Investment Corporation of Orissa Ltd., has applied to his Ministry to grant a letter of intent to set up that project; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken to issue the letter of intent ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH) : (a) to (c). In July 1985 M/s. Industrial Promotion and Investment Corporation of Orissa Ltd. submitted an application for grant of letter of intent for setting up a unit at Cuttack in Orissa for manufacture of acrylic staple fibre for a capacity of 12,000 tonnes/annum. The application was rejected.

Refineries run by Indian Oil Corporation

1193. SHRI SRIKANTA DATTA NARASIMHARAJA WADIYAR : Will

the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of oil refineries being run by Indian Oil Corporation;

(b) the capacity utilisation of each of those refineries in 1985-86;

(c) whether IOC proposes to take up some more projects; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : (a) and (b). A statement is given below.

(c) and (d). It has been proposed to set up a 6 MTPA grass root refinery at Karnal in the joint sector with IOC as a partner. IOC are also expanding the capacity of their Koyali and Mathura refineries by 2.2 and 1.5 MTPA respectively and propose to set up additional secondary processing facilities at Koyali refinery.

Statement

Refinery-wise Installed Capacity/Crude throughput and Capacity Utilisation by IOC during 1985-86

Refinery	Installed Capacity	Actual Crude Throughput	1985-86 (MMT)
			Capacity Utilisation (%)
1	2	3	4
1. IOC, Gauhati	0.85	0.77	91%
2. IOC, Barauni	3.30	2.77	84%
3. IOC, Koyali	7.30	7.83	107%
4. IOC, Haldia	2.50	2.82	113%
5. IOC, Mathura	6.00	6.08	101%
6. IOC, Digboi	0.50	0.53	106%
Total	20.45	20.80	102%

**Proposal to start New Industries by
Central Government in Andhra
Pradesh**

1194. SHRI V. TULSIRAM : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is some minor or major industry sponsored by the Union Government located in the backward districts of Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether there is some proposal to start new industries in these back-ward

districts of Andhra Pradesh in the near future, if so, when and if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (c). Under the provisions of the industries (Dev. and Reg.) Act. 3 letters of intent were granted during the years 1983 to 1986 (upto Sept.'86) to Central Government Undertakings for setting up of industries in centrally declared backward areas of Andhra Pradesh—Details of these are given below :

Name of the Unit/Location	Type	Item of Mfg. and Capacity
Electronics Corpn. of India Ltd., Hyderabad (Backward distt. cat 'B' or 'C')	New under taking	Colour Graphic Terminals and image processing display terminals=100 nos.
Electronics Corpn. of India Ltd., Hyderabad (Tirupati, Chittoor)	New under taking	Colour Projection TVS-18,000 nos.
Electronics Corpn. of India Ltd., Hyderabad (Tirupati)	New under taking	Digital Single Channel per carrier equipment (SCPC) =50 systems.

**Non-Availability of Alcohol to Industries
in Andhra Pradesh**

1195. SHRI V. TULSIRAM : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that alcohol based industries in Andhra Pradesh are suffering due to non-availability of industrial alcohol and rectified spirit required for their smooth functioning;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Union Government to improve the supply of these commodities to Andhra Pradesh ?

OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH) : (a) to (c). In order to improve the availability of alcohol in Andhra Pradesh, 18 industrial units in that State were allowed duty free import of 112,882 lakh litres of alcohol (denatured). In addition, 70.76 lakh litres of alcohol, including rectified spirit, was allocated to Andhra Pradesh from U.P. and Maharashtra during the current alcohol year 1985-86 (December 1985-November 1986). Thus, all possible efforts have been made to make available adequate quantity of alcohol for industries in Andhra Pradesh.

**Divisional Telephone Committees in
Andhra Pradesh**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY

1196. SHRI V. TULSIRAM : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Divisional Telephone Committees in Andhra Pradesh and their composition;

(b) the terms of the Committees and when these will be reconstituted; and

(c) the criteria to get a telephone connection on out of turn basis ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) There are no Divisional Telephone Advisory Committee.

(b) Does not arise in view of reply to part (a) above.

(c) The information is given in the Statement below.

Statement

Permanent telephone connections can be sanctioned on out of turn priority basis to provide traffic relief to heavy callers, or due to an areas change in multi-exchange telephone system when the 'main telephone' or its 'external extension' is involved in the area transfer. Heads of Telecommunications Circles and Telephone Districts can also sanction telephones in deserving cases on merits at their discretion from the 'OYT-Special' and 'Non-OYT-SS' priority categories. Members of Telecom/Telephone Advisory Committee also recommend sanction of telephone on out of turn basis from 'OYT' and 'Non-OYT-Special' categories at time of bulk release. Other deserving cases can be sanctioned from the Headquarters office on out of turn priority basis.

Pending Power Projects in Andhra Pradesh

1197. SHRI V. TULSIRAM : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether some proposals to seek external financial assistance to complete all the approved pending power projects in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the projects are expected to be completed and start generating power for use particularly for agricultural purposes ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) to (c). Proposals to seek external financial assistance for reducing the overall resource constraint in the Power Sector have been considered for different States including Andhra Pradesh. The question of availing of this aid has to be viewed in the context of effective utilization of indigenous capacity which is being done. No final decision to avail of external finance has, however, been taken.

Civil cases pending in Delhi High Court

1198. SHRIMATI PRABHAWATI GUPTA : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of civil cases pending in Delhi High Court upto June, 1986;

(b) the period of their pendency; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken for their early clearance ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ) : (a) and (b). The requisite information is being collected from the Registry of the Delhi High Court and would be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) Steps taken for all the High Courts which include the Delhi High Court, are given in the Statement below.

Statement

Steps taken from time to time to reduce pendency

The following steps have been taken in recent years to reduce pendency in the High Courts :

1. Elimination of arrears in all the Courts has been discussed in the Conference of Chief Justices, Chief Ministers and Law Ministers of States

held on 31st August—1st September 1985 and the Resolutions of the Conference have been commended to the High Courts and the State Governments.

2. The Code of Civil Procedure was amended in 1976 to abolish Letters Patent Appeals from Judgement of Single Judge of the High Court in Second Appeal (vide Section 100-A).
3. The Code of Criminal Procedure based on the recommendations of the Law Commission was enacted in 1973.
4. The sanctioned strength of the High Court Judges has been increased from 351 in March 1977 to 434 as on 1st November, 1986.
5. Apart from the above, certain High Courts are taking the following steps for ensuring better disposal of cases :
 - (a) Cases involving common questions are being grouped by several High Courts;
 - (b) Matters fixed for hearing by giving short returnable dates;
 - (c) Dispensing with printing of records;
 - (d) Expediting and giving priority to matters under certain Acts.
6. The recommendations contained in the 79th Report of the Law Commission have been examined. As action on majority of the recommendations is to be taken by the State Governments and the High Courts, these have been sent to them alongwith the view of the Union Government and they have been requested to take necessary action.
7. The Government have entrusted the Law Commission, the study of the judicial system to introduce necessary reforms. The terms of reference are :
 - (a) the need for decentralisation of

the system of administration of justice by :

- (i) establishing, extending and strengthening in rural areas the institution of Nyaya Panchayats or other mechanisms for resolving disputes;
 - (ii) setting up a system of participatory justice with defined jurisdiction and powers in suitable areas and centres;
 - (iii) establishing other tiers or systems within the judicial hierarchy to reduce the volume of work in the Supreme Court and the High Courts.
- (b) the matters for which Tribunals (excluding Services Tribunals) as envisaged in Part-XIV-A of the Constitution need to be established expeditiously and various aspects related to their establishment and working.
 - (c) the procedural laws with a view generally to disposing of cases expeditiously, eliminating unnecessary litigation, delays in hearing of cases and reforms in procedures and procedural laws and particularly to devising procedures appropriate to the forums envisaged in items (a) (i) and (a) (ii).
 - (d) the method of appointments to subordinate courts, subordinate judiciary.
 - (e) the training of Judicial officers.
 - (f) the role of the legal profession in strengthening the system of administration of justice.
 - (g) the desirability of formulation of the norms which the Government and the Public Sector Undertakings should follow in the settlement of disputes including a review

of the present system for conduct of litigation on behalf of the Government and such undertakings.

- (h) the cost of litigation with a view to lessening the burden on the litigants.
- (i) formation of an All India Judicial Service; and
- (j) such other matters as the Commission considers proper or necessary for the purposes aforesaid or as may be referred to it from time to time by the Government.

Help to African countries in setting up Small Industries

1199. **SHRIMATI MADHUREE SINGH** : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have any proposal to help developing countries of Africa in setting up small industries on its own model; and

(b) the details in regard to development of small industries and creation of institutional and infrastructural facilities in these countries ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b). India is providing assistance to the developing countries including African countries in the promotion and development of small scale industries. The assistance need not be patterned on the Indian model. It depends upon various factors such as, the requirements of the country, the availability of local resources, infrastructural facilities, etc. The assistance is rendered in the form of providing consultancy services for planning, designing and establishment of industrial units along-with related infrastructural facilities. They

also include carrying out industrial potential surveys, assistance in policy areas, assistance in setting up of institutional and providing services for project identification and selection, and supply of plants, equipment, etc.

Supply of Foodgrains to Flood Affected States

1200. **SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL** : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Centre have rushed foodgrains to the States which have been affected by floods and drought during the last six months;

(b) if so, the break-up of the supplies made to each State;

(c) the price at which these cereals were supplied; and

(d) whether in view of the happy position that the country now enjoys with regard to wheat production, the supplies of wheat could be made at concessional rates to help the flood/drought affected people and if so, Government's reaction in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A statement indicating lifting of foodgrains by Andhra Pradesh, West Bengal and Assam/NEF States is given below.

(c) Foodgrains are supplied to State Governments at the Central Issue Prices fixed by the Central Government from time to time.

(d) Wheat is issued at Central Issue Prices. Distribution to the flood/drought affected people at concessional rates is decided upon by the State Governments where necessary.

Statement

Statement showing lifting of wheat and rice by Andhra Pradesh, West Bengal and Assam/NEF States under Public Distribution System, Roller Flour Mills and Integrated Tribal Development Project Scheme during April-September 1986

(figures in '000 tonnes)

Month	Andhra Pradesh		West Bengal		Assam/NEF	
	Wheat	Rice	Wheat	Rice	Wheat	Rice
April '86	2.6	73.9	47.6	63.8	22.4	64.8
May '86	7.2	90.0	49.4	57.3	30.1	69.1
June '86	4.8	101.0	48.5	57.2	24.1	76.2
July '86	8.2	114.5	86.4	77.7	37.8	79.5
August '86	7.6	109.1	111.7	79.6	48.9	85.7
September '86	4.5	87.1	109.2	87.3	51.6	78.1

Funds Raised by Mahanagar Telephone Nigam

1201. SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Mahanagar Telephone Nigam has been raising funds from the Market through debentures;

(b) if so, details thereof;

(c) whether the cost of raising these funds would affect its working costs;

(d) if so, whether such higher costs would be passed on to consumers; and

(e) if so, details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) Yes Sir.

(b) An issue of Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Bonds for raising Rs. 150 Crore will open on 25th November, 1986. The bonds will be in the denominations of Rs. 1000 each for cash at per under cumulative and

non-cumulative scheme. The bonds will be of two types :

(i) 14% (taxable) bonds redeemable after 7 years from the date of allotment.

(ii) 10% (tax free) bonds redeemable after 10 years from the date of allotment.

(c) Yes, to some extent.

(d) and (e). This will have to be considered from time to time.

Joint Venture Projects in Power Sector

1202. SHRI RAM SINGH YADAV : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government had invited joint venture projects in the power sector with a view to overcoming resource constraint in this regard;

(b) whether response from the private parties including Non-resident Indians has been encouraging till now; and

(c) the time by which these power projects would be set up and add to the total energy generation in the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) to (c). Proposals have not been invited for setting up power projects under joint-sector management; however, some parties have evinced interest in such projects. The proposals can be taken up for implementation after their evaluation and tying up of necessary inputs.

Linking of Bhiwadi and Alwar with Modern Higher Capacity Optical Fibre Telecommunication Transmission System

1203. SHRI RAM SINGH YADAV : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a modern higher capacity optical fibre telecommunication transmission system is being introduced to link Delhi with Bombay *via* Jaipur during the Seventh Five year Plan;

(b) whether Bhiwadi and Alwar (Rajasthan) are on the Microwave Telecommunication transmission system and are located in the telecommunication system route from Delhi to Jaipur; and

(c) whether Government propose to link Bhiwadi and Alwar towns of Rajasthan also with modern higher capacity optical fibre telecommunication transmission system during the Seventh Five Year Plan ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) At present Alwar is connected to New Delhi and Jaipur on Delhi-Jaipur Microwave system.

(c) Bhiwadi has been proposed to be linked to Delhi-Jaipur Optical fibre route by a spur optical fibre cable from Rewari during the 7th plan.

Setting up of Institute of Environmental Safety

1204. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Oil and Natural Gas Commission has decided to set up an Institute of Environmental Safety in the country; and

(b) if so, the details regarding its functioning as well as the cost and location etc. ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : (a) and (b). The Oil and Natural Gas Commission has not taken a decision for setting up an Institute of Petroleum Safety and Environmental Management.

Cooking Gas Distribution Agencies in Bangalore

1205. SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of cooking gas distribution agencies in Bangalore city;

(b) whether it is a fact that there are a number of complaints against these agencies; and

(c) if so, what action has been taken by Union Government ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : (a) Presently there are 43 LPG distributorships in operation in Bangalore City.

(b) and (c). Complaints are received against distributors by the oil companies in the normal course of operations and, after due enquiry, action is taken in accordance with the prescribed Marketing Discipline Guidelines.

Postal Services in Tripura, Manipur and Mizoram

1206. SHRI AJOY BISWAS : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of new post offices and sub-post offices to be opened during Seventh Five Year plan in Tripura, Manipur and Mizoram; and

(b) the new schemes for expansion of postal services in these three States ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) In view of the continuing ban on creation of posts, there are no proposals at present for sanctioning new post offices in Tripura, Manipur and Mizoram or any other State/ Union Territory. 628 post offices in Tripura, 546 in Manipur and 277 in Mizoram are already functioning.

(b) A new scheme of Licensed Postal Agents has been introduced since last year. Under this scheme, suitable institutions/ individuals are licensed to render certain basic postal facilities such as sale of postage stamps and stationery, registration of postal articles and despatch of postal articles to post office. Such agencies are already functioning in Manipur and Tripura.

Construction of Multi-Storeyed Building for Head Post Office at Agartala

1207. SHRI AJOY BISWAS : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a multi-storeyed building is proposed to be constructed at Agartala for Head Post Office;

(b) if so, the causes for delay in completion of that building; and

(c) the time by which it will be completed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Administrative Approval and Expenditure Sanction for this project has been issued. Construction of the new building will be commenced after demolition of the old structure for which also approval has been accorded. Construction is expected to commence during the current financial year and it will be completed in about 3 years from its commencement.

Closing of Post Offices in Tripura

1208. SHRI AJOY BISWAS : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have decided to close down some post offices in Tripura;

(b) if so, how many post offices will be closed down;

(c) whether resentment has been expressed by different mass organisations of the State against closure of post offices; and

(d) if so, whether Government will reconsider the decision and allow the post offices to continue functioning ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d). The questions do not arise.

Recommendations on National Committee on Perspective Planning of Petro-Chemical Industry

1209. SHRI H.N. NANJE GOWDA :
SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJU :
SHRI JAGANNATH PATT-
NAIK :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Committee on Perspective Planning of Petrochemical Industry has submitted its report;

(b) if so, what are its recommendations;

(c) whether Government have examined the recommendations and if so, decisions taken thereon; and

(d) by what time these are likely to be implemented ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R.K. JAI-CHANDRA SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The main recommendations made by it for development of Petro-chemical Industry relate to supply and demand projections, technology alternatives, feed-stock availability locational considerations, R and D programmes and facilities, and training programmes and facilities.

(c) and (d). The recommendations require detailed consideration before a view is taken thereon.

Recession in Consumer Goods Demand

1210. SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN SINHA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a recession in demand of several consumer goods like refrigerators, light commercial vehicles, paper and cement;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(c) whether industrial units in these sectors have approached the Government in regard to various concessions for stimulating the demand ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) There has been a slowing down in the rate of growth of demand for refrigerators and a substantial decline in the demand for light commercial vehicles in recent months. In the case of cement and paper products, production has increased in the current financial year as compared to the corresponding period of the last financial year and there is no indication

of any recessionary trends in these two sectors.

(b) In the case of light commercial vehicles, high cost of production, high selling price and shortage of bank financing are the main reasons for the decline in demand. In the case of cement, slackness in construction industry may have lead to a temporary decline in demand in some parts of the country.

(c) Representations have been received from some of these sectors for concessions and reliefs such as reduction of excise duty and enhancement of retention price of cement. The paper industry has also made certain suggestions for enhancing the demand.

Manufacture of 500 MW indigenous unit by BHEL

1211. SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN SINHA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd., has completed manufacture of its first 500 MW indigenous unit;

(b) if so, what is its import content; and

(c) whether customers are insisting on performance or other guarantees from foreign companies regarding its import content ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC ENTERPRISES IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. K.K. TEWARY) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The import content is 45% approximately.

(c) In recent tenders there has been no such stipulation.

Generation of Resources by Public Sector Units

1212. SHRI BHATTAM SRIRAMA MURTY : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Department of Public Enterprises has prepared a profile of all Public Sector units to assess the present situation in order to revamp them later;

(b) whether it is a fact that several measures were proposed to revamp them which include waiving off part of accumulated losses; and

(c) to what extent resource generation has taken place so far as against a target of Rs. 40,000 crore to be raised during the current Plan period ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC ENTERPRISES IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. K.K. TEWARY) : (a) and (b). The Department has been constantly reviewing the performance of Central Public Enterprises under its administrative control with a view to improving their performance. Steps that are considered necessary in individual cases are taken including write off of accumulated losses in deserving cases.

(c) The target of net internal resource generation set for 45 Central Public Enter-

prises during the first year of the Seventh Five Year Plan viz; 1985-86, as per Annual Plan document is Rs. 3438.64 crores. Against this, the actual achievement by 43 Central Public Enterprises, based on flash reports for 1985-86, is Rs. 3185.32 crores.

Employees in Maruti Udyog Limited

1213. SHRI SIMON TIGGA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the number of employees in Maruti Udyog Limited, category-wise; and

(b) the number and percentage of employees belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, category-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC ENTERPRISES IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. K.K. TEWARY) : (a) and (b). Category-wise total number of employees in Maruti Udyog Limited including employees belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes is given below :

Category	Total Employees	SC/ST Employees	
		Number	Percentage
Level 1-7	2,208	290	13%
Level 8-10	467	15	3%
Level 11-20	438	23	5%
Trainees	132	5	4%
Total	3,245	333	

Dealers of Maruti Car

1214. SHRI SIMON TIGGA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the number of dealers of Maruti Car, State-wise;

(b) the number and percentage of dealers belonging to Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe category, State-wise; and

(c) the details of the criteria of reservation in dealership to Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe people ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC ENTERPRISES IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. K.K. TEWARY) : (a) The information is given in the statement below.

(b) Nil.

(c) No reservation was made for Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe in the allotment of dealerships.

Statement

No. of Dealerships (State-Wise)

Sl. No.	State	No. of Dealers
1	2	3
1.	Jammu and Kashmir	2
2.	Punjab	3
3.	Haryana	2
4.	Rajasthan	3
5.	Himachal Pradesh	1
6.	Uttar Pradesh	6
7.	Madhya Pradesh	6
8.	Bihar	2
9.	West Bengal	3
10.	Assam	1
11.	Nagaland	1
12.	Orissa	1
13.	Maharashtra	7
14.	Gujarat	4
15.	Karnataka	3
16.	Andhra Pradesh	3
17.	Kerala	3

1	2	3
18.	Tamil Nadu	4
19.	Delhi	5
20.	Goa	1
21.	Chandigarh	1
Total		62

Satellite Communication Technology Facility in Kerala

1215. SHRI T. BASHEER : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the proposal to extend the satellite communication technology to the rural remote and backward areas of the country; and

(b) the places earmarked for such facility in Kerala ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) Yes, there is a proposal to set up 18 earth stations in Remote, Hilly and Backward areas of the country.

(b) One earth station at Ernakulam has been commissioned under INSAT Project. As Kerala is having long distance microwave/coaxial links no additional earth stations have been planned.

Procurement of Rice and Wheat by Food Corporation of India

1216. SHRI T. BASHEER : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state the total procurement of rice and wheat separately by the Food Corporation of India during the years 1985-86 and 1986-87, State-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : A statement is given below :

Statement

Procurement of Rice and Wheat made directly by Food Corporation of India during the 1985-86 and 1986-87 Marketing Seasons

('000 Tonnes)

State/U.T.	Rice (including paddy in terms of Rice)		Wheat	
	1985-86 (October to September)	1986-87**	1985-86 (April to March)	1986-87*
Andhra Pradesh	1572	1	—	—
Assam	17	—	—	—
Bihar	Neg.	—	—	—
Haryana	937	58	591	849
Karnataka	82	—	—	—
Madhya Pradesh	470	1	3	5
Orissa	129	—	—	—
Punjab	3123	1088	1682	2507
Rajasthan	32	—	37	102
Uttar Pradesh	30	—	289	180
West Bengal	69	—	2	—
Arunachal Pradesh	4	—	—	—
Chandigarh	7	1	—	—
Delhi	—	—	Neg.	—
Pondicherry	7	Neg.	—	—
Total	6479	1149	2604	3643

* Position as on 31.10.1986.

**Position as on 6.11.1986.

Neg.—Below 500 tonnes.

S.T.D. Facilities in Kerala

1217. SHRI T. BASHEER : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number and names of exchanges in Kerala linked by STD as on date;

(b) the names and number out of them likely to have direct dialling service with foreign countries; and

(c) the number and names of exchanges, which are expected to be linked by STD during the Seventh Plan in Kerala ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) There are 48 exchanges in Kerala linked by STD as on date. Names of these exchanges are given in the Statement-I below.

(b) All the exchanges listed in Statement-I will ultimately have direct dialling service with foreign countries.

(c) Eleven more exchanges listed in Statement-II are expected to be linked by STD during the Seventh Plan in Kerala.

Statement-I

List of Exchanges in Kerala linked by STD as on Date

- | | |
|------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Alleppey | 2. Alwaye |
| 3. Cannanore | 4. Changanur |
| 5. Ernakulam | 6. Kottayam |
| 7. Kozhikode | 8. Kunnamkulam |
| 9. Narakkal | 10. Palghat |
| 11. Quilon | 12. Tiruvalla |
| 13. Trichur | 14. Trivandrum |
| 15. Nevyatinkara | 16. Kottarakara |
| 17. Taliporamba | 18. Mavelikara |
| 19. Angamally | 20. Chalakudy |
| 21. Palai | 22. Chowghat |
| 23. Guruvayur | 24. Atingal |
| 25. Shertalai | 26. Kalpeta |
| 27. Badegara | 28. Vaikom |
| 29. Adoor | 30. Malapuram |
| 31. Manjeri | 32. Kundara |
| 33. Iddukki | 34. Irinjalkuda |
| 35. Chingavanam | 36. Kothamanglam |
| 37. Muvathupuzha | 38. Perumbavoor |
| 39. Punalur | 40. Changanacherry |

41. Thodupuzha

43. Kolancherry

45. Algapanagar

47. Munnar

42. Cheerpu

44. Olavakode

46. Ollur

48. Vizhinjam

Statement-II

List of Exchanges in Kerala to be linked by STD during the 7th Plan

- | | |
|---------------|-------------------|
| 1. Nileswar | 2. Tellicherry |
| 3. Varkala | 4. Kanjirapally |
| 5. Kasaragod | 6. Pathanamthitta |
| 7. Cranganore | 8. Perinthalmanna |
| 9. Ottapalam | 10. Alathur |
| 11. Parur | |

Production of Cement and Steps to Improve Working of Mini Cement Plants

1218. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the total production of cement in the country during 1984-85 and 1985-86 and the expected total production in 1986-87;

(b) the percentage of the total production of cement accounted for by production from mini cement plants;

(c) the steps, if any, intended to be taken by Government to help the mini cement plants to solve problems of transport and marketing;

(d) whether Government intend to introduce suitable legislation to allow mini cement plants to improve technology and still remain within the definition of small scale industries; and

(e) if so, details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNA,

CHALAM) : (a) and (b). The required information is as under :

(in million tonnes)

Year	Total pro- duction of cement	Percentage of produc- tion of the mini cement plants to the total production
1984-85	30.17	1.62
1985-86	33.10	2.93
1986-87 (Target)	36.50	3.15

(c) Mini cement plants are set up *inter-alia* to reduce burden on railway transportation and to meet the neighbourhood demand. These plants mostly use road transportation. These plants are also free to market their production as they are exempt from price and distribution controls which are applicable to large cement plants.

(d) and (e). No legislation is contemplated with regard to the mini cement plants. However, Government's policy is to encourage Mini Cement Plants based on Vertical Shaft Kiln technology, as compared to the Rotary Kiln Technology, this technology has certain advantageous in terms of lower investment costs, relatively less pollution, usage of coke breeze instead of coal, etc.

[Translation]

Functioning of Lok Adalats in States

1219. SHRI R.M. BHOYE : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of 'Lok Adalats' functioning in each State during the current year so far; and

(b) the number of cases disposed of so far, State-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ) : (a) Lok Adalats are not constituted to function as

regular bodies. They are organised normally by the State Legal Aid and Advice Boards as voluntary agencies.

(b) According to the information available with the Committee for Implementing Legal Aid Schemes, the number of cases disposed of state-wise, so far, is as follows :

S.No.	Name of the State	Cases Disposed of
1.	Andhra Pradesh	8207
2.	Bihar	6889
3.	Gujarat	20210
4.	Karnataka	741
5.	Madhya Pradesh	319
(Figures are for 1st Lok Adalat out of 3 held in the State)		
6.	Haryana	7307
7.	Maharashtra	4809
(Figures are on the basis of financial year and upto 31st March, 1986)		
8.	Orissa	376
9.	Rajasthan	192034
10.	Tamil Nadu	113
11.	Uttar Pradesh	91479
12.	Delhi	867
13.	Pondicherry	37

Fall in Production in Scooters India Limited

1220. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR :
SHRI SARFARAZ AHMAD :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the reasons for fall in production in Scooters India Limited, a Government of

India Enterprise, every year since 1982 with details of production during each year;

(b) the steps taken for the modernisation of the aforesaid enterprise with results thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to retrench the employees in the aforesaid enterprise and if so, the criteria adopted for this purpose and the number of employees proposed to be retrenched; and

(d) the number of officers at present working in the enterprise and the total amount being spent per year on their pay, allowances and other benefits?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC ENTERPRISES IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. K.K. TEWARY):

(a) Year-wise Production

Year	Two-wheelers	Three-wheelers	Fans
1982-83	36,756	385	38,482
1983-84	22,619	788	37,679
1984-85	27,722	950	37,259
1985-86	23,992	1234	53,513

The main reasons for the low production are :

- (i) production constraints resulting in low capacity utilisation.
- (ii) consumer preference for other makes of scooters; and
- (iii) poor liquidity due to continuing losses.

(b) and (c). The question of restructuring including rationalisation of manpower of the Scooters India Limited, in order to make it a viable unit is being examined.

(d) The number of Officers in Scooters India Ltd. as on 31.10.86 is 213. The total amount being spent on their pay and allowances works out to Rs. 79.44 lakhs per year at current rates.

[English]

Exemption from Food Procurement in Karnataka State

1221. SHRI V.S. KRISHNA IYER :
SHRI NARSING SURYA-
WANSHI :

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Karnataka State Rice Millers Association have requested for the exemption of Karnataka State from Food Procurement Programme; and

(b) if so, the action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The request was not acceded to for the reason that no major change in the procurement policy, as suggested by the Association, was feasible in the prevailing circumstances.

Setting up of Mangalore Refinery

1222. SHRI V.S. KRISHNA IYER :
SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL :

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any decision has been taken by Government to continue the policy of importing petroleum products or to create additional refinery capacity in the country;

(b) if not, when the decision will be taken;

(c) whether it is a fact that the setting up of Mangalore Refinery is still pending due to final decision not having been taken about creating additional refinery capacity in the country; and

(d) if not, the reasons for delay in setting up Mangalore Refinery ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : (a) to (d). In order to meet the demand, petroleum products are imported to supplement the production from the refineries in India.

During the exercises made for financing the 7th Plan Projects it was found that a serious resource constraint was coming in the way of implementing the Mangalore Refinery in the public sector. Hence Government is considering the setting up of this refinery in the joint sector. Offers received from various private parties for participation in this joint venture are being examined.

Import of Steel by Manufacturers of Cooking Gas Cylinders

1223. SHRI NITYANANDA MISRA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that steel of superior quality has to be imported by manufacturers of cooking gas cylinders;

(b) if so, the number of projects that have been delayed because of the non-availability of steel of required quality;

(c) the steps taken to meet the demand of steel from indigenous sources;

(d) the particulars of the schemes that are suffering due to the lack of supply of gas cylinders; and

(e) the state-wise schemes drawn up to expand the network of supply of cooking gas both in urban and rural areas of the country during the next three years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : (a) and (c). Any shortfalls in the indigenous availability of the special kind of steel required for LPG cylinders are met through imports from time to time. Efforts are being made to step-up indigenous production of this variety of steel.

(b) and (d). The steel requirements of LPG cylinder manufacturing units are being met through indigenous and imported steel. These units have not suffered for want of availability of this steel. Release of new LPG connections or supplies to existing consumers have also not suffered in the recent past for lack of steel.

(e) Release of new connection is made under the annual customer enrolment programme of the oil industry and is determined by augmentation in availability of LPG, bottling capacity, transportation and other infrastructure facilities. It is proposed to enrol the following numbers of new customers in the country during the next three years:

1987-88 : 18.0 lakhs (prov.)

1988-89 : 18.0 lakhs (prov.)

1989-90 : 18.0 lakhs (prov.)

[Translation]

Electrification of Piploda under Sullana Legislative Assembly Constituency, M.P.

1224. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the details of profit and loss of the Rural Electrification Corporation for the last three years and whether keeping in view the profit earned by the Corporation Government propose to consider the question of advancing loan by the Corporation for electrification in adivasi,

inaccessible and remote areas at a low rate of interest;

(b) the number of proposals for electrification received from Madhya Pradesh which are pending indicating the date since when each proposal is pending along with the expenditure involved in each proposal and the time by which they are likely to be cleared; and

(c) the date from which the scheme for electrification of Piploda development block which is a part of Jhabua Adivasi Parliamentary Constituency and falls under Sailana Legislative Assembly constituency, is pending and the time by which this scheme is likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) The net profit after tax earned by the Rural Electrification Corporation during the last three years was Rs. 12.21 crores during 1983-84, Rs. 13.32 crores during 1984-85 and Rs. 16.19 crores during 1985-86.

As it is, the Rural Electrification Corporation have prescribed lower rate of interest on the loans advanced to the State Electricity Boards for electrification of areas inhabited by Tribals and Harijans.

(b) A statement of proposals of Madhya Pradesh Electricity Board, pending with the Rural Electrification Corporation is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-3214/86]

The schemes would be sanctioned during the current year subject to the same being techno-economically viable, availability of funds etc.

(c) The Rural Electrification schemes for Piploda block of district Ratlam for a loan assistance of Rs. 67.85 lakhs has already been sanctioned by the Corporation.

[English]

Appointment of Dealers of Petroleum Products and L.P.G.

1225. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN :
SHRI AMARSINH RATHAWA :

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of dealerships of petroleum products and LPG advertised but not filled during 1985-86, State-wise and company-wise;

(b) the number of additional dealerships approved for 1986-87, State-wise and company-wise;

(c) the number of applications by categories of applicants, for dealership pending with various companies as on 31st March, 1984; and

(d) the steps taken by Government for rational distribution of retail outlets among various companies and for reducing the backlog and the processing time?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : (a) The requisite information is given in the Statement laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-3215/86]

(b) The requisite information pertaining to Retail Outlet Dealerships and SKO-LDO dealerships is given in the statement laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-3215/86] The Marketing Plan for 1986-87 for LPG distributorships is yet to be finalised.

(c) The information is not readily available.

(d) The sharing of HSD retail outlets between the oil marketing companies is done on the basis of principles prescribed by Government. While the setting up of new retail outlets is a continuous process, the demand for free sale products like HSD and MS in the country is being met in full through the existing outlets.

Formulation of New Telecommunications Policy

1226. SHRI YASHWANTRAO GADAKH PATIL : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to formulate a new telecommunications policy; and

(b) if so, the outline thereof and the objectives in view ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The outline and objective of the Telecommunication policy would be enumerated when the policy paper is presented to the Lok Sabha.

Computerisations of Data on Small Scale Industries

1227. SHRI YASHWANTRAO GADAKH PATIL : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is proposed to computerise data on small scale industrial units with a view to effectively monitor the development of this sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) when the work would be taken up ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (c). Data on some aspects of small scale sector are being processed utilising computer facilities from outside agencies. Details regarding a proposal for installation of a personal computer in the Office of Development Commissioner (Small Scale Industries) by the National Informatics Centre have not been finalised.

Production of Plastic Products

1228. SHRI G. BHOOPATHY : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have formulated any proposal for bringing about improvement in productivity of plastic products; and

(b) if so, the expected increase in production of plastic products by next year ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R.K. JAI-CHANDRA SINGH) : (a) A number of measures to increase productivity of plastic products have been initiated.

(b) The increase in productivity will lead to increased production of plastic products. It is, however, not possible to indicate the quantum of expected increase on this account.

Output of Ramagundam Super Thermal Project

1229. SHRI G. BHOOPATHY : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the present output of Ramagundam Super Thermal Project; and

(b) the approximate date of commencement of production of the fourth unit and its expected output ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) Three units of 200 MW each are presently in operation at the Ramagundam Super Thermal Power Project. The Station has generated 1876 million Kwh of power during the period April-September, 1986 at a Plant Load Factor of 71.2%.

(b) The fourth unit (500 MW) is expected to be commissioned by July, 1988.

[Translation]

Cooking Gas Agencies in Rajasthan

1230. SHRI BANWARI LAL BAIRWA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the district-wise number of cooking gas agencies operating in Rajasthan;

(b) whether it is a fact that the State is lagging behind in cooking gas supply as compared to other States, and if so, steps taken for opening new gas agencies; and

(c) the details of the arrangements made for supply of gas cylinders to the consumers residing in the areas outside the jurisdiction of a dealer ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : (a) A statement is given below.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) As a rule, LPG distributors can supply refills only within the area of their jurisdiction.

Statement

S.No.	District	No. of Distributors
1	2	3
1.	Jaipur	20
2.	Jodhpur	8
3.	Kota	8
4.	Bikaner	5
5.	Chittorgarh	3
6.	Jhalawar	2
7.	Udaipur	6
8.	Dungarpur	1
9.	Sirohi	2
10.	Banswara	1
11.	Nagaur	1
12.	Jaisalmer	1

1	2	3
13.	Churu	3
14.	Dholpur	1
15.	Alwar	4
16.	Sikar	2
17.	Ajmer	8
18.	Sriganganagar	3
19.	Bundi	1
20.	Bharatpur	3
21.	Bhilwara	2
22.	Jalore	1
23.	Jhunjhunun	2
24.	Sawai Madhopur	3
25.	Tonk	1
26.	Nagaur	1
27.	Pali	1
		94

[English]

Amendment to Indian Evidence Act

1231. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to amend Indian Evidence Act to deal effectively with the offences of terrorism;

(b) if so, salient features of these amendments; and

(c) when the amending Bill is proposed to be brought before Parliament ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ) : (a) No, Sir. The Terrorist and Disruptive Activities

(Prevention) Act, 1985 (31 of 1985), a special law enacted for the prevention of, and for coping with, terrorist and disruptive activities contains ample provisions to deal effectively with the offences of terrorism. There is no therefore no need to amend the Indian Evidence Act.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Exemption from Court fees

1232. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are considering a proposal for selective exemption from the payment of court fees;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the names of the States and Union Territories which have agreed to this proposal ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ) : (a) to (c) The Law Commission has been entrusted with the study of reforms in judicial administration and make recommendations. One of the terms relate to study of the cost of litigation with a view to lessening the burden on litigants. The report of the Committee of Law Ministers regarding the abolition of Court Fee has, therefore been referred to the Law Commission for their study and recommendation in this regard. Appropriate decision would be taken on receipt of report of the Law Commission.

Proposal for more Income Tax Appellate Tribunals

1233. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Income Tax Appellate Tribunals functioning in the country;

(b) whether Government propose to establish more such tribunals in the country; and

(c) whether Government contemplates establishing such tribunals in the capitals of each Union Territory ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ) : (a) There are thirty-eight Benches of the Income-tax Appellate Tribunal in the country out of which 34 are functioning at present.

(b) No, sir.

(c) No, sir.

Reciprocal Arrangements with foreign Countries for service of summons Civil suits and execution of decree

1234. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the countries with whom India has reciprocal arrangements for service of summons in civil and suits execution of decrees:

(b) the names of the countries with whom such arrangements are proposed to be made; and

(c) the details of Government's experience with respect to the working of the arrangements ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ) : (a) The names of the countries with whom India has reciprocal arrangements for service of summons in civil suits and execution of decrees are given in the statement below.

(b) and (c). According to the information furnished by the Ministry of External Affairs, there is no proposal at present to enter into fresh reciprocal arrangements with foreign countries.

The experience with foreign countries with which the Government of India have entered into such arrangements with the exception of Nepal, is satisfactory.

Statement*Reciprocal Arrangements with foreign Countries*

No. of summonses and processes under Section 29 (c) of C.P.C.	Execution of civil Degrees under Sec.44A C.P.C.	Enforcement of Maintenance under Section 3 of the Maintenance orders Enforcement Act, 1921	Administrator General's Act, 1913 under Section 57. (This Act stands repealed by Act, 1963)
1	2	3	4
1. Bangla Desh	1. Aden	1. Australia Capital Territory	1. Afghanistan
2. Belgium	2. Hongkong Federation of Malaya	2. Australia Northern *Territory	2. Argentina
3. Burma	3. Fiji Islands	3. Basutoland, Bechunaland	3. Czechslovakia
4. Ceylon	4. Honkong	4. Burma Saziland	4. Denmark
5. Egypt	5. Papua New Guinea	5. Ceylon Protectorate	5. Iraq
6. France	6. Sikkim	6. Cocos (Keeling) Islands	6. Iran
7. Iraq	7. Singapore	7. Colony of Straits and settlements	7. Poland
8. Japan	8. Trinidad and Tobago	8. England and Ireland	8. U.S.A.
9. Kenya	9. United Kingdom	9. Federation of Malaya	
10. Malaya, Federation of	10. Victoria	10. Fiji Islands	
11. Nepal	11. Western Samoa, Newzealand and Cook Islands	11. Isle of Mam	
12. Pakistan		12. Kenya	
13. Persia		13. Malawi (Blantyre)	
14. Portugal		14. Mauritius	

1	2	3	4
15. Russia		15. Northern Rhodesia (Zambia)	
16. Singapore		16. Southern Rhodesia	
17. Sikkim		17. Sarawak	
18. Spain		18. Seychelles	
19. Sweden		19. Singapore	
		20. Somalil and Protectorate	
		21. Uganda Protectorate	
		22. Zanzibar *Western Australia	

Grants to Supreme Court and High Courts for Providing Facilities to Litigant

1235. SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have considered the question of giving specific grants to various High Courts for the construction extension of their buildings and providing facilities to litigant public;

(b) whether there is any proposal for giving grants to Supreme Court/High Courts for modernisation of their office equipments such as introduction of word processors etc. to provide copies of judgements and other documents to the litigant public without any long waiting time; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Under Article 229 (3) of the Constitution, the Administrative expenses of a High Court, including all

salaries, allowances and pension payable to or in respect of the Officers and Servants of the Court is required to be met by the respective State Governments. As intimated by the State Governments and Registry of the Supreme Court Telex machines have been installed in various High Courts and Supreme Court. The supply of word processors to the Supreme Court is receiving the attention of the Central Government.

Cement Production in Andhra Pradesh and Steps to Increase its Production

1236. SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the total quantity of cement produced in Andhra Pradesh during the years 1985 and 1986; and

(b) the steps taken by Government to increase its production ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) The Production of cement

in the factories in Andhra Pradesh during the year 1985 was around 5.16 million tonnes and during 1986 (upto August) was 3.63 million tonnes. (The production in the whole year 1986 is likely to be around 5.5 million tonnes.

(b) Besides the various efforts being made to encourage maximum utilisation of existing capacities by removing infra-structural constraints, new capacities have also been sanctioned. Schemes of expansions and modernisation which can materialise expeditiously are being encouraged.

Applications Received for Cement Factories in Gujarat

1237. SHRI RANJITSINGH GAEKWAD : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the number of applications received for setting up cement factories in Gujarat during the last three years;

(b) the number of applications rejected, letters of intent issued and number of applications pending for disposal; and

(c) the names of companies which have been granted letters of intent with places of location of factories ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b). The position in regard to the number of applications received, the applications rejected the applications pending and the letters of intent issued for setting up of cement plants in Gujarat during the last three years is given below :

	1983	1984	1985
Applications received	8	11	5
Letters of intent issued	2	6	3
Rejected	6	5	2
Pending	Nil	Nil	Nil

(c) Details are given in the statement below.

Statement

Sl. No.	Name of the Company/ Person	Capacity (LTPA)	Location of the Unit
1	2	3	4

Letters of Intent

1.	Shri S.K. Gadhvi	0.66	Palanpur, District Banaskantha
2.	Shri A.V. Salgaokar	5.00	Lakpat, Kutch Distt.
3.	Shree Digvijay Cement Co. Ltd.	4.85 (SE)	Digvijaygram Jamnagar Distt.
4.	M/s. Mysore Cements Ltd.	10.00	Veraval (clinkering) Junagarh Distt. and Rajkot (Grinding)
5.	Shri Hashmakh Vinodlal Mehta	0.66	Danta, Distt. Banaskantha
6.	Shri Lalu Tarachand Bansali	0.66	Danta, Distt. Banaskantha

1	2	3	4
7.	M/s. Arbuda Cements Ltd.	5.00	Khedbrahma Distt. Sabarkantha
8.	M/s. Hindustan Development Corporation Ltd.	0.60	Danta, Ambaji Dt. Banas-kantha-Since cancelled
9.	M/s. Sourashtra Cement and Chemical Ltd.	3.30 (SE)	Ranavav Distt. Junagarh
10.	M/s. Gujarat Ambuja Cements Limited	7.00 (SE)	Kodinar Distt. Amreli
11.	M/s. Paras Cement and Chemicals Industries (Gujarat) Ltd.	0.66	Palasara, Junagarh Dt.

Setting up of Gas Based Power Plants in Gujarat

1238. SHRI RANJITSINGH GAEK-WAD : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is fact that the development of the Gandhar oilfields Gujarat has opened vast possibilities for gas-based power plants and petrochemical units;

(b) the estimated total availability of natural gas to Gujarat from the Gandhar Oilfields by the end of Seventh Five Year Plan period;

(c) the number of gas based power plants that would be established in Gujarat from out of the natural gas available from the Gandhar oilfields; and

(d) the places of their location and their generating capacity ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : (a) to (d). Additional gas is expected to be available after Gandhar fields are developed. The exact quantity of additional gas that will be available from Gandhar is yet to be determined. As and when these quantities are known, appropriate plans for utilisation of this gas will be made.

Setting up of Petrochemical Complex Near Hajira

1239. SHRI RANJITSINGH GAEK-

WAD : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether a proposal for setting up a petrochemical complex near Hajira in Gujarat in Joint Sector is pending clearance for a long time; and

(b) if so, the reasons for delay in clearing the project ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETROCHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R.K. JAI-CHANDRA SINGH) : (a) and (b). Final decision on the proposal for the setting up of a petrochemical complex in Gujarat will be taken in due course after a number of issues relating to availability of feedstock, tie up of resources etc. are resolved.

Functioning of Lok Adalats in Gujarat

1240. SHRIMATI PATEL RAMABEN RAMJIBHAI MAVANI : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) how many Lok Adalats have been conducted in various parts of Gujarat and the country;

(b) the details of cases disposed of in each of such Lok Adalats during 1st January, 1985 to 30th October, 1986;

(c) whether demand has been made from various quarters to take cases of civil nature and other types of cases which are not being taken up at present;

(d) if so, the decision taken in the matter; and

(e) what is the set up and procedure of conducting Lok Adalat and how the cases are being processed and scrutinised for inclusion in the Lok Adalat ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ) : According to the information received from committee for Implementing Legal Aid Scheme :

(a) 129 Lok Adalats in the State of Gujarat and 549 Lok Adalats in other parts of the country have been held.

(b) The details of cases disposed of in the Lok Adalats held in the State of Gujarat during 1st January, 1985 to 31st October, 1986 are as under :

Civil	2,444
Civil Execution	5
Criminal	1,150
Revenue	185
Matrimonial	355
M.A.C.T.	3,771
Misc.	679

The details of cases so far disposed of by Lok Adalats in other States are as follows :

Andhra Pradesh	8,207
Bihar	6,889
Haryana	7,309
Karnataka	741
Madhya Pradesh	319
Maharashtra	4,809
Orissa	376
Rajasthan	1,92,034
Tamil Nadu	113

Uttar Pradesh 91,479

Delhi 867

Pondicherry 37

(c) Gujarat State Legal Aid and Advice Board received a request from Co-operative Bar Association to hold a Lok Adalat for cases of civil nature filed in the Court of Registrar's nominee under Gujarat Co-operative Societies Act.

(d) The Gujarat State Legal Aid and Advice Board has accepted this request and has agreed to hold a Lok Adalat for cases pending in the Court of Registrar's Nominee. The Co-operative Bar Association was requested by the Member-Secretary of the Board to make preliminary arrangements.

(e) Lok Adalat is a voluntary agency for settlement of disputes through conciliatory method. When the State Legal Aid and Advice Board is approached by one of the parties to the dispute, the Board approaches the other party and through persuasive measures, tries to motivate the other party for a compromise/amicable settlement. The matter is taken up, if both the parties are agreeable, before the Lok Adalat and a settlement is recorded if parties come to a mutual settlement. The final decree on such a settlement is then passed by the concerned Court.

Capacity Utilisation by Mining and Allied Machinery Corporation

1241. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Mining and Allied Machinery Corporation has not made any profit since its inception;

(b) the total losses accumulated by the Corporation as on 31st March, 1986;

(c) the average utilisation rate of its installed capacity since its inception;

(d) whether the said Corporation has succeeded in getting adequate orders from the coal-mining industry; and

(e) if not, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC ENTERPRISES IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. K.K. TEWARY) :

(a) No, Sir. Mining and Allied Machinery Corporation had made marginal profits during the years 1972-73 to 1976-77.

(b) The cumulative loss of the company as on 31-3-1986 is about Rs. 156 crores.

(c) The average utilisation of installed capacity has ranged from 50% to 83%.

(d) and (e). With persistent efforts the Corporation has been able to improve its order book position from the coal mining industry.

Items reserved for Small Scale Sector

1242. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to lay a statement showing :

(a) the up-to-date list of items reserved for manufacture by the small scale sector;

(b) the list of items which were earlier reserved for this sector and which have been subsequently dereserved since January, 1985;

(c) the list of items, if any, which were not so reserved earlier and which have been reserved now; and

(d) the estimated value of annual production of the above reserved as well as dereserved items ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) The number of items reserved for exclusive manufacture in the small scale sector as at the end of October, 1986 is 863. Names of the items have been published in Gazette of India extra-ordinary, Part-II, Section 3, Sub-section (II) *vide* notifications dated, 26th April, 1978, 30th December 1978, 12th May, 1980, 19th February, 1981, 3rd August, 1981, 23rd December, 1981, 14th October, 1982, 19th October, 1982, 3rd September, 1983 (two notifications), 18th October, 1984, 30th May, 1986 and 30th October, 1986. A consolidated and updated list of items reserved for manufacture by small scale sector is available in the Library of Lok Sabha Secretariat.

(b) A list of items which were earlier reserved for this sector and which have subsequently been dereserved and another list of items in respect of which the nomenclature was modified since January 1985 are given in Statement I and II below.

(c) A list of items which were not so reserved earlier and which have been reserved now is given in the Statement III below.

(d) The annual value of production is estimated for the small scale sector as a whole and not separately for reserved and dereserved items.

Statement-I

List of Items Dereserved since January 1985

Sl.No.	Sl. no. as per Gazette Notification	Product Code Number	Name of the Item
1	2	3	4
1.	218	312301	Indino
*2.	328 (2)	303966	Roofing Tiles-Plastic,

1	2	3	4
*3.	329 (2)	303938	Flooring Tiles-Plastic
*4.	329 (4)	321933	Flooring Tiles-Glass.
5.	332	321402	Glass Tube.
6.	346	328904	Slazed Tiles upto 10 Cms. X 10 Cms.
7.	465	343802	Nail Cutters.
8.	537	359942	Sheep Shearing Machine.
9.	567	36370302	Cooking ranges upto 4 hot plates/boiler plates with/without haking even hot cases upto 4 KW.
10.	601A	36430501	TV Reflection Components.
11.	606	364906	Electronic Cigarette Lighters.
12.	618	369959	Electronic Flash Guns.
13.	619	369970	Hearing Aids.
14.	656	374861	Handles and Locks-auto.
15.	88	290602	Lining Leather from Goat and Sheep Skins.
16.	89	29090201	Laminated Leather Belting.
17.	498	349945	Measuring Tapes-Steel.
18.	513D	354804	Clicking knives for Leather Industry.
19.	611	366905	Digital Clocks.
20.	782	38210201	Time Pieces-Mechanical winding with Alarm Conventional.
21.	803	389401	Non-Mechanical Toys.

Note : Items marked with asterisk are only sub-items. Effective number of items de-reserved is 18.

Statement-II

List of items in respect of which the nomenclature was modified since January, 1985

S. No.	S. No. as per gazette notification	Original nomenclature of the item	Product Code No.	Modified nomenclature of the item	Product Code No.
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	138	Plastic Collapsible Tubes	303704	Plastic Collapsible Tubes except laminated.	30370401
2.	141	Polyurethane foam	30390101	Flexible Polyurethane foam.	30390103
3.	142	Polyurethane foam products.	30390102	Flexible Polyurethane foam products and Polyurethane Shoe Soles.	30390104 30393105
4.	143	Polystyrene foam products	303902	Polystyrene foam products except slabs for expandable polystyrene beads manufacturers.	30390201
5.	148	Zip fasteners-Non-metallic	303913	Zip fasteners-Non-metallic except in the case of integrated plants manufacturing all components.	30391301
6.	239	Benzyl Chloride	310649	Benzyl Chloride (except for captive consumption).	31064900
7.	250	Polyester Resins	316201	Polyester Resins Unsaturated.	31620101
8.	284	Precipitated Silica	310364	Precipitated Silica except fumed silica.	31036401
9.	387	Zip Fasteners Metallic	340906	Zip fasteners metallic except in the case of integrated plant manufacturing all components.	34090601
10.	510	Diesel engines upto 15 HP-slow speed	35230101	Diesel Engines upto 15 HP slow speed except those	35230103

1	2	3	4	5	6
				with specific fuel consumption less than 180 gm. per BHP/per hour.	
11.	564	Electric Irons-Ordinary/Auto Steam-upto 3.63 kg.	363170101	Electric Irons other than Steam Irons	36370102
12.	584	Washing machine with/without Spin driers upto 3.63 kg. Cap/upto 3 KW.	36372601	Domestic Washing Machine other than programmable type.	36372602
13.	585	Baking Ovens with/without provision for Roasting/grilling upto 56.6 Litres and 1 KW.	363727	Baking Ovens with/without provision for roasting/grilling upto 56.6 litres and 1 KW other than microwave ovens.	36372701
14.	587	Electrical Wiring Accessories.	363804	Electrical wiring accessories other than switches, plugs and sockets.	36380401
15.	597	Metal Clad Switches-upto 100 Amps/Miniature circuit breakers.	36991601	Metal Clad Switches upto 100 amps.	36991602
16.	600	T.V. Tuners	364303	TV Tuners excluding Electronic Tuners	36430301
17.	652	Exhaust Mufflers-Auto	374874	Exhaust Mufflers-Auto other than Double Coil exhaust mufflers.	37487401
18.	682	Spokes and Nipples-Auto Cycle.	375804	Spokes and Nipples-Auto Cycles other than swaged type.	37580401
19.	9	Confectionery (except chocolates)	2090201	Confectionery excluding chocolates, toffees and Chewing Gums,	20920101

1	2	3	4	5	6
20.	15	Poultry Feed	216201	Poultry Feed except in Pellet form.	21620101
21.	16	Ground and Processed Spices	219201	Ground and Processed Spices other than Spice Oil and Oleo Resin Spices.	21920101
22.	156B	Coke Briquettes (except Lignite and for integrated plants)	307001	Coke Briquettes used as domestic fuel.	30700101
23.	156C	Coal Briquettes (except Lignite and for integrated plants)	307002	Coal Briquettes (except lignite) used as domestic fuel.	30700201
24.	596	Electric Transmission line hardware and accessories other than those manufactured in malleable castings and pre-formed types.	36990401	Electric Transmission Line Hardware and Accessories other than those manufactured in malleable castings, preformed type and for lines of 400 KV and above only (subject to its being manufactured in an integrated plant).	36990401

Statement-III

List of Items Reserved since January '85

Sl. No.	Sl. No. as per Gazette Notification	Product Code Number	Name of the Item
1	2	3	4
1.	8A	20530102	Pastry
2.	16C	224302	Synthetic Sprups.
3.	107A	301107009	Moulded Rubber Soles and Heels for Footwear (except for captive consumption)
4.	330A	321002	Block Glass

1	2	3	4
5.	330B	321003	Vitrite Glass (except for captive Use)
6.	467A	344029	Vitreow Enamel Hollow- wares and slates
7.	792A	381102	Ophthalmic Lenses from Blanks
8.	318B	319603	Sodium Saccharine

**Progress of Dhankuni Coal Complex
Project, West Bengal**

1243. SHRI ATISH CHANDRA
SINHA :
SHRIMATI BIBHA GHOSH
GOSWAMI :

Will the Minister of ENERGY be
pleased to state :

(a) whether any progress has been made
in the Dankuni Coal Complex project,
West Bengal;

(b) whether the completion of the
project has been delayed and if so, the
extent thereof;

(c) whether the Heavy Engineering
Corporation and National Projects Con-
struction Corporation have both failed to
adhere to the scheduled date of supply of
the machinery for the project;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the extent and value of cost escala-
tion in the total cost of project due to
delay; and

(f) the steps proposed to expedite the
project ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI
VASANT SATHE) : (a) to (f). Dankuni
Coal Complex was sanctioned by the
Government of India in 1980 with a cost
estimate of Rs. 49.27 crores. Heavy
Engineering Corporation was appointed as
the turnkey contractor for the project which
was scheduled to be completed in 1984. The

project has got delayed due to initial
difficulties in land filling at site, import of
technology and delay in procurement of
equipment etc.

Now the project is making considerable
progress and is already in an advanced
stage of completion. The project is likely to
be completed by mid 1987. National
Projects Construction Corporation have
almost completed the construction of the
township and a major part of the work
being handled by Heavy Engineering Corpo-
ration has also been completed. Escalation,
on account of increase in interest charges
and revenue expenses, has been estimated as
Rs. 11 crores approximately. To ensure early
completion of the project, the following
steps have already been taken :

- (i) Close monitoring of the project at
various levels;
- (ii) HEC has strengthened its supervi-
sion to streamline the work at
site;
- (iii) Multiple shifts have been introduc-
ed; and
- (iv) Man power augmented.

**Telephone Service between Berhampore
and Calcutta**

1244. SHRI ATISH CHANDRA
SINHA : Will the Minister of COM-
MUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been sharp rise in
the number of complaints from the telephone

subscribers in Berhampore, West Bengal during the past six months;

(b) whether trunk telephone system between Berhampore-Calcutta mostly remains out of order as a result of which subscribers of Berhampore do not get any service of telephone net-work throughout the country;

(c) whether the long-awaited subscribers trunk dialling facility is yet to be provided to the subscribers of Berhampore; and

(d) if so, the facts and details thereof and further action contemplated to be taken to improve the telephone service and to provide STD facility to the subscribers of Berhampore immediately ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) No Sir.

(b) No Sir; trunk telephone system between Berhampore and Calcutta has not been mostly out of order which can be seen from the following figures of trunk calls booked/trunk calls, effective, during the period May, 86 to Oct. 86.

	Booked/Effective	
May, 86	2860	1459
June, 86	2904	1560
July, 86	3092	1355
Aug, 86	2485	1903
Sept. 86	2775	1499
Oct., 86	2734	1122

(c) Yes Sir; Arrangements for provision of subscriber trunk dialling facility have been made alongwith automatisation of Berhampore Central Battery Manual Exchange.

(d) Automatisation of Central Battery Manual exchange at Berhampore has already been planned. Alongwith automatisation,

arrangements have also been made for provision of STD facility to the subscribers of Berhampore.

Setting up of New Power Stations in Andhra Pradesh

1246. SHRI MANIK REDDY : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up new power stations during Seventh Plan period;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and year-wise;

(c) the power generation capacity of the power stations to be set in Andhra Pradesh and the places where these stations are proposed to set up; and

(d) the amount earmarked for the purpose ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) and (b). Power Stations envisaged to give benefits during the Seventh Plan period are indicated State-wise in the statement laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-3216/86]. The commissioning programme is, however, fixed from year to year.

(c) A capacity addition of 838.5 MW is envisaged in Andhra Pradesh during the Seventh Plan period from the following projects :

Scheme	Benefit in 7th Plan (MW)
1	2
Balimela	60
Nagarjunasagar II	100
Srisaillam II	330
Penna Ahobilam	20
Nagarjunasagar LBC	60

1	2
Pochampad	27
Nagarjunasagar RBC	30
Kakatiya Canal	1.5
Vijaywada Extn.	210

(d) The Power Sector outlay for Andhra Pradesh for the Seventh Plan is Rs. 1104.90 crores.

Financial Assistance to Agencies involved in the Research of Harnessing Solar, Sea-Wave and Bio-Gas Energy

1247. SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the total amount spent during the financial years 1984-85, 1985-86 and the

current year on the research efforts for harnessing solar, sea-wave and bio-gas energy;

(b) the agencies which are involved in the research with the financial assistance of the Government and the details of assistance to each agency and the results achieved so far;

(c) the role of voluntary agencies which are not receiving any government financial assistance; and

(d) whether any major break-through in tapping solar energy has been reported, if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) The total amount spent during 1984-85, 1985-86 and the current year (30 Sept., 86) on sponsoring research and development, demonstration and connected activities on harnessing solar, sea-wave and bio-gas energy is as under :

(Rs. in crores)

Programme	Amount Spent		
	1984-85	1985-86	1986-87 (upto Sept., 86)
Solar	9.46	9.12	1.70
Sea-wave	0.16	0.14	0.07
Biogas	0.25	1.02	0.13

(b) A large number of research institutions set up by the Government including autonomous bodies like Indian Institutes of Technology, Universities, National Laboratories and those set up by the private sector like Tata Energy Research Institute, Shri Ram Institute for Industrial Research, Delhi are engaged in energy related research and development activities. The institutions which have been given grant for R and D in sea-wave energy are : Indian Institute of Technology, Madras and Calcutta Port Trust. About 40 institutions are involved in research on various aspects

of Biogas technology. The notable institutions are Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay; Regional Research Laboratory, Jorhat; Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore; Andhra Pradesh Agricultural University, Hyderabad; Tata Research, Development and Design Centre, Pune; Maharashtra Association for Cultivation of Science, Pune; Cotton Technological Research Laboratory, Bombay. Among the prominent institutions entrusted with R and D activities in solar Energy are : National Physical Laboratory, New Delhi; Indian Institute of Technology, New Delhi;

Indian Institute of Technology, Madras; Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur; Andhra University, Waltair; Nimbkar Agricultural Research Institute, Phaltan; Jadavpur University, Calcutta; Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore; Tata Energy Research Institute; Annamalai University. Thus, the total number of private and voluntary agencies, semi-Government and Governmental organisations, involved in the research and development activities sponsored by the Department of Non-Conventional Energy Sources is very large and almost all the important research institutions in the country are engaged in promoting research in the field of new and renewable energy sources.

As a result of R and D activities sponsored by the Department, six new models of biogas plants have been developed and improvements have been effected in the existing ones. The feed-stock has been diversified to include material like human wastes, water hyacinth, vegetable wastes etc.

In the area of sea-waves, laboratory experiment on developing suitable system for extracting wave energy has been completed. These systems will be tested under field condition.

(c) The projects proposed or sponsored by voluntary and other agencies are funded subject to their expertise and capability and the need for such projects as evaluated by National Technical Advisory Committees set up for each sector and the Government is not aware of the role played by the voluntary agencies which are not receiving financial assistance from the Government in the area of New and Renewable Sources of Energy.

(d) In order to develop the area of solar thermal conversion and utilisation, multi-pronged research and development activities were taken up by Government. As a result, several solar thermal devices, systems and processes have been developed. These include solar cookers, Solar Collectors, Solar Water Heating Systems, Solar Wood Seasoning Kilns, Solar Desalination Systems, Selective Coating processes etc. Technical knowhow for many of these systems has been passed on to the industry and considerable manufacturing capacity for

these devices and systems has already come up in the country. A Solar Thermal Extension Programme has already been initiated by the Government on the basis of the low temperature technologies developed under the solar thermal research and development programme. This R and D programme was and is being executed through various Universities, Research Institutes, Institutes of Technology, National Laboratories. The development of low grade solar thermal energy systems which has come up from laboratory stage to large scale extension programme stage is the result of efforts made by these R and D organisations, the individual achievement of whom may be difficult to elaborate. The Department is providing funds for the development of materials, prime movers, solar refrigeration and airconditioning systems, heat storage systems, studies on system engineering and solar thermal power. Through these programmes, some achievement has already been attained in the medium temperature solar thermal applications also such as Evacuated Collector system, Parabolic Collector system etc. Research and development efforts are also being continued on solar photovoltaic power generation, amorphous silicon and thin film solar cells.

Rate of Industrial Growth in Kerala

1248. SHRI K. MOHANDAS : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the present rate of industrial growth in Kerala;

(b) the present rate of industrial growth in other State, state-wise;

(c) whether Government have any concrete plan to bring the rate of industrial growth in Kerala to the national average during the Seventh Plan; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b). The Central Statistical Organisation (CSO) does not compile State-wise index of industrial

production. However, based on Annual Survey of Industries for the latest available year 1982-83, a statement giving information about percentage growth rates in terms of Value of Output in different States and Union Territories is given below.

(c) and (d). An outlay of approximately Rs. 436.79 crores (exclusive of the outlay provided for expansion programme of Hindustan Latex Ltd.) has been provided in the 7th Five-Year Plan for central industrial undertakings in the public sector located in Kerala. This will be utilised for expansion of existing undertakings and replacement, renewals, diversifications and other facilities in existing central public sector undertakings in Kerala. In addition, a state plan outlay about Rs. 208 crores for industrial and mineral sector including village and small industries has also been provided during the 7th Five-Year Plan.

Statement

Percentage growth rate in value of output during 1982-83 in States and Union Territories

Name of the State/Union Territory	Percentage growth rate in value of output (at current prices) during 1982-83
-----------------------------------	--

1	2
1. Andhra Pradesh	+36.0
2. Assam	— 5.5
3. Bihar	+27.6
4. Gujarat	+23.3
5. Haryana	+18.6
6. Himachal Pradesh	+41.3
7. Jammu and Kashmir	+47.4
8. Karnataka	+17.7
9. Kerala	+ 2.7
10. Madhya Pradesh	+18.9

1	2
11. Maharashtra	+12.0
12. Manipur	—43.5
13. Meghalaya	+63.3
14. Orissa	— 4.0
15. Punjab	+11.1
16. Rajasthan	+ 8.6
17. Tamil Nadu	+12.9
18. Tripura	+33.6
19. Uttar Pradesh	+28.8
20. West Bengal	+ 9.3
21. Andaman and Nicobar Islands	+ 9.5
22. Chandigarh	+ 3.6
23. Delhi	+34.3
24. Goa, Daman and Diu	+65.2
25. Pondicherry	+ 3.7
Total	+17.1

Commission on Productivity and Efficiency in Industry

1249. DR. V. VENKATESH :
SHRI KALI PRASAD PANDEY :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are contemplating any steps for improving productivity and efficiency in industry and implementing the anti-poverty programme;

(b) whether any high level Commission is going to be set up on productivity and efficiency; and

(c) if so, the facts thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) Yes, Sir. The Government of India have taken various steps for improving productivity and efficiency in industry which will ultimately help in implementing the anti-poverty programme.

(b) and (c). Government of India (Cabinet Secretariat) have constituted a 'Commission on Economic Efficiency, Productivity and Exports' under the Chairmanship of Shri L.K. Jha, M.P., which *inter-alia*, will suggest measures for improving capacity utilisation, efficiency and productivity in industry both in the private and the public sectors.

Posting of High Court Judges appointed from Bar

1250. SHRI G.L. DOGRA : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any guidelines have been laid down by Government for the posting of judges appointed from the local Bar in the same High Court in which they were practising before their elevation to judgeship or to some other High Court; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Shortage of Kerosene in Calcutta

1251. KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that there is an acute shortage of kerosene oil in the public distribution system in Calcutta; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps proposed to be taken by Government to overcome the shortage ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND

NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : (a) and (b). West Bengal Government had intimated that due to floods and festivals in Sept./October 1986, there was heavy demand for kerosene in Calcutta and other parts of the State and requested for additional allocation to meet the situation. This was considered and additional ad hoc allocations of 2500 tonnes for September and 11000 tonnes for October 1986 were made to West Bengal, apart from the allocation already given at the enhanced growth rate of %, to meet the increased demand. The allocation for winter block comprising the months of November '86 to February '87 has been made at the growth rate of 7½%.

As retail distribution of kerosene to various sections/areas within the State is made and controlled by the State Government the West Bengal Civil Supplies Deptt. allocated a total quantity of 13312 Kls for Calcutta Public Distribution System for Oct. '86 and the oil industry met the same in full. In fact, the upliftment was 104%.

Payment of Fee to Government Advocates

1252. SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Advocates who have been paid by Government a fee of more than rupees one lakh in a year during each of the last three years for conducting cases on behalf of the Government in the Supreme Court of India and in the High Courts of Calcutta, Bombay, Madras and Delhi; and

(b) the number of cases won by Government and the number of cases lost, separately, in so far as cases referred to in part (a) above the concerned ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ) : (a) and (b). Information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

Manufacture of Portable Rice Mills with Japanese Technologies

1253. SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any scheme for the manufacture of portable rice mills with Japanese technologies; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b). No, Sir. However, two applications, one from M/s. Oswal Agro Mills Ltd., New Delhi and another from M/s. Bindal Agro Chem. Ltd., Ludhiana, have been received for the import of Designs and Drawings from M/s AS-AF Corporation Ltd., Japan for the manufacture of Portable Rice Milling Machines. The first application from M/s. Oswal Agro Mills Ltd., has already been rejected. The second application is still under consideration.

Common licensing policy in Karnataka

1255. SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government of Karnataka is considering a proposal to introduce a Common licensing policy under the provisions of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government of India have already conveyed their concurrence to the proposal of the Karnataka Government to issue the Karnataka Essential Commodities Common Licensing Order, 1986.

Vacancies of Judges in Supreme Court and High Courts

1256. SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) the sanctioned strength of the Supreme Court and High Court Judges as on 1 July, 1986 and the vacancies at present;

(b) the date of each of these vacancies; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take for filling up the vacancies in Supreme Court and High Courts as soon as the vacancies occur ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ) : (a) and (b). As on 1-7-1986, the sanctioned strength of the Supreme Court was 26 Judges and of the High Courts 431 Judges. As on 1-11-1986 there were 11 vacancies in the Supreme Court and 70 vacancies in the High Courts. The dates from which these are lying vacant are given in the statement below.

(c) The matter regarding filling up of the vacancies of Judges in the Supreme Court and the High Courts is engaging the attention of the Government in consultation with concerned Constitutional authorities.

The Government have recently reiterated the instructions prescribing a time-schedule wherein the Chief Justices, the Chief Ministers and the Governors of the States have to send their recommendations and requested them to adhere to it so that the vacancies of Judges are filled in expeditiously.

Statement**I. Supreme Court****As on 1-11-1986**

No of vacancies	Date from which vacancies have arisen
11	9-3-1986 7-4-1986 15-6-1986

*the remaining 8 vacancies arose on 10-5-1986 when the sanctioned strength of the Supreme Court was raised from 18 to 26 judges.

II. High Courts

S.No.	Name of the High Court	Vacancies		Date from which vacancies in col.3 and 4 have arisen
		Permanent	Additional	
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Allahabad	4	6	15.10.1984 15.10.1984 15.10.1984 15.10.1984 15.10.1984 7.02.1985 5.05.1986 23.05.1986 27.06.1986 18.08.1986
2.	Andhra Pradesh	1	2	26.11.1982 29.11.1982 19.08.1985
3.	Bombay	3	2	13.04.1986 6.05.1986

1	2	3	4	5
				6.05.1986
				17.06.1986
				1.07.1986
4. Calcutta		5		21.01.1986
				1.02.1986
				10.03.1986
				1.09.1986
				1.11.1986
5. Delhi		2	2	12.03.1985
				29.10.1985
				22.12.1985
				20.08.1986
6. Guhati		—	—	—
7. Gujarat		2	3	7.06.1984
				24.06.1984
				2.04.1985
				19.12.1985
				22.07.1986
8. Jammu and Kashmir		—	—	—
9. Karnataka		4	—	24.10.1985
				18.12.1985
				13.08.1986
				28.09.1986
10. Kerala		—	—	—
11. Himachal Pradesh		—	1	23.09.1986
12. Madhya Pradesh		1	3	14.05.1986
				14.05.1986
				27.10.1986
				1.09.1986
13. Madras		6	—	25.01.1984

1	2	3	4	5
				1.06.1985
				10.03.1986
				10.08.1986
				3.09.1986
				23.10.1986
14. Orissa	2	1		1.03.1986
				24.06.1986
				26.06.1986
15. Patna	9	—		9.09.1984
				28.11.1984
				12.01.1985
				1.05.1986
				1.05.1986
				25.06.1986
				14.08.1986
				10.09.1986
				13.10.1986
16. Punjab and Haryana	9	—		29.11.1983
				16.01.1984
				26.03.1984
				14.05.1984
				1.08.1984
				24.05.1985
				12.03.1986
				11.07.1986
				16.07.1986
17. Rajasthan	—	1		23.07.1986
18. Sikkim	1	—		21.01.1986
	49	21		
Grand Total :			70	

**Location of Titanium Dioxide Factory
in Tamil Nadu**

1257. **SHRI N. DENNIS** : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the TIDCO, Tamil Nadu has been issued letter of intent for starting a Titanium Dioxide Factory in Tamil Nadu;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether the industrial complex pertaining to Titanium will be located at the place of the available of the raw material, namely, Kanyakumari district?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (**SHRI R.K. JAI-CHANDRA SINGH**) : (a) to (c). M/s. Tamil Nadu Industrial Development Corporation Limited (TIDCO) has been issued a Letter of Intent for the manufacture of Titanium Dioxide (Rutile Grade) for a capacity of 25,000 tonnes per annum and the project is proposed to be located by them in Distt. Tirunelveli in Tamil Nadu. The estimated project cost according to the company is Rs. 28 crores.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Arjun Singh.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajapur) : Sir, before that I want to raise.

MR. SPEAKER : What is your point of order?

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : A very serious situation has arisen. On 23rd November there is a Parliamentary by-election in Banka.

MR. SPEAKER : That should be referred to the Election Commission.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : The Election Commission's annual report 1985 has requested the Government...

MR. SPEAKER : There is no point of order. I don't agree. Not allowed.

(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER : You ask the Election Commission.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : We have already submitted.

MR. SPEAKER : That is right, not allowed.

(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER : Permission not granted.

(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER : I cannot allow a question which has to be dealt with by the Election Commission itself. Nothing doing.

(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER : Not allowed. Permission not granted at all.

(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER : Not allowed. I have not given any permission to anybody.

(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER : Look here, the problem is, it is a mis-interpretation. The Election Commission is an autonomous body. He had to deal with it. He can write to the Government for whatever help he needs.

(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER : I am firm in my ruling. It will not change.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI (Ghasi) : Sir, I have also submitted a notice that

DMK President, Shri Karunanidhi and his colleagues talk about the burning of Constitution because they are against Hindi. Sir, I want to say, through you...

MR. SPEAKER : You come to me and tell me.

(Interruptions)

SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI : It is clearly a case of sedition. Stern action should be taken against them. The Government should make a statement in this regard and they should be prevented from doing so.

MR. SPEAKER : You come to me and tell me.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : My ruling is the same. No permission is granted on this subject.

(Interruptions)**

12.03 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

[English]

Notifications under Indian Telegraph Act

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI ARJUN SINGH) : I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (5) of section 7 of the Indian Telegraph Act, 1885 :

- (1) The Indian Wireless Telegraph (Foreign Ships) Amendment Rules, 1986 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 924 in Gazette of India dated the 25th October, 1986.
- (2) The Indian Wireless Telegraph (Amendment) Rules, 1986 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 925

in Gazette of India dated the 25th October, 1986.

- (3) The Radio, Television and Video Cassette Recorder Sets (Exemption for Licensing Requirements) Amendment Rules, 1986 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 926 in Gazette of India dated the 25th October, 1986.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-3165/86]

Notification amending Notification No. S.O. 98 (E) under Industries (Development and Regulation) Act

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO) : I beg to lay on the Table a copy of Notification No. S.O. 801(E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 30th October, 1986 making certain amendment to Notification No. S.O. 98(E) dated the 16th February, 1973 so as to make changes in the 'List of Articles Reserved for Small Scale Sector' under sub-section (2H) of section 29B of the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-3166/86.]

Notifications under Government Savings Certificates Act

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : I beg to lay on the Table :

- (1) A copy of the Indira Vikas Patra Rules, 1986 (Hindi and English versions) published in notification No. G.S.R. 1183(E) in Gazette of India dated the 5th November, 1986, under sub-section (3) of section 12 of the Government Savings Certificates Act, 1986.
- (2) A copy of Notification No. G.S.R. 1184(E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 5th November, 1986 specifying that the provisions of Government Savings Certificates Act, 1959 shall apply to Indira

Vikas Patra, issued under the said Act.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-3167/86]

Notification under M.R.T.P. Act, Annual Report of and Statement *re* Review on National Institute of Small Industry Extension Training, Hyderabad, for 1985-86 and Annual Report of Controller-General of Patents, Designs and Trade Marks for 1985-86

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : I beg to lay on the Table :

- (1) A copy of the Notification No. S.O. 669(E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 12th September, 1986 making certain amendment to Notification No. 65(E) dated the 21st February, 1986 under sub-section (3) of section 22A of the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Act, 1969.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-3168/86]

- (2) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute of Small Industry Extension Training, Hyderabad, for the year 1985-86 along with Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A statement (Hindi and English versions) regarding Review by the Government on the working of the National Institute of Small Industry Extension Training, Hyderabad, for the year 1985-86.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-3169/86.]

- (3) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Controller General of Patents, Designs and Trade Marks for the year 1985-86 under section 126 of the Trade and Merchandise Marks Act, 1958.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-3170/86.]

Review on and Annual Report of Bengal Immunity Limited, Calcutta for the period 1.10.1984 to 31.3.1985

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R.K. JAICHANDRA SINGH) : I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956 :

- (1) Review by the Government on the working of the Bengal Immunity Limited, Calcutta, for the period from 1st October, 1984 to 31st March, 1985.
- (2) Annual Report of the Bengal Immunity Limited, Calcutta, for the period from 1st October, 1984 to 31st March, 1985 along with Audited Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-3171/86]

Statements showing action taken by Government on various assurances, promises etc. given by Ministers

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SHEILA DIKSHIT) : I beg to lay on the Table the following statements (Hindi and English versions) showing the action taken by the Government on various assurances, promises and undertakings given by the Ministers during the various sessions of Lok Sabha :

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Statement No. XX-Eleventh Session 1983
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-3172/86] (2) Statement No. XVII-Fourteenth Session, 1984
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-3173/86] (3) Statement No. XIII-Fifteenth Session, 1984
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-3174/86] | <div style="text-align: right;">Seventh
Lok
Sabha</div> |
|---|---|

- (4) Statement No. XI-
Second Session, 1985
[Placed in Library. See
No. LT-3175/86]
- (5) Statement No. VIII-
Third Session, 1985
[Placed in Library. See
No. LT-3176/86]
- (6) Statement No. VII-
Fourth Session, 1985
[Placed in Library. See
No. LT-3177/86]
- (7) Statement No. IV-
Fifth Session, 1986
[Placed in Library. See
No. LT-3178/86]
- (8) Statement No. I-Sixth
Session, 1986
[Placed in Library. See
No. LT-3179/86]
- Eighth
Lok
Sabha

MR. SPEAKER : Nothing doing. My ruling is the same.

*(Interruptions)***

MR. SPEAKER : Not allowed.

*(Interruptions)***

MR. SPEAKER : Not allowed. No permission.

*(Interruptions)***

MR. SPEAKER : Go to the Election Commission. Now matter under Rule 377. Shri Nihal Singh Jain.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : No. I am not convinced.

(Interruptions)

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMANDS FOR GRANTS (GENERAL), 1986-87

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : Sir, On behalf of Shri Vishwanath Pratap Singh, I beg to present a statement (Hindi and English versions) showing the Supplementary Demands for Grants in respect of the Budget (General) for 1986-87.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : As a protest we are staging a walk-out.

(Prof. Madhu Dandavate and some other hon. Members then left the House)

[Translation]

SHRI MOHD. MAHFOOZ ALI KHAN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, you see the present condition of our country, in which direction it is going and they are celebrating 'Utsav'...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE

[English]

Fifty-Eighth Report

SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY (Kurnool) : I beg to present the Fifth-eighth Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Public Accounts Committee on Action Taken by Government on the recommendations contained in their 206th Report (Seventh Lok Sabha) relating to 'Incorrect deduction in respect of inter-corporate dividends'.

MR. SPEAKER : Not allowed. The hon. gentleman has not got my permission.

[Translation]

Mr. Umakant Mishra, you speak.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Do not disturb the House. The hon. Member has the floor.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Panika, do not talk with him.

(Interruptions)

****Not recorded.**

[*Translation*]

It is all right, you have your own wishes and they have their own. You had your say.

[*English*]

Do not shout and do not disturb. Not allowed. If you do not sit withdraw from the House. Do not shout and do not disturb. If you do not sit down withdraw from the House. Nothing doing. I have got no power.

(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER : You express your own views and they will express their own.

12.05 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

[*Translation*]

- (i) Demand for measures to protect the historical places of archaeological value and develop the birth places of late Pt. Motilal Nehru, Ghalib and Nazir in Agra as national memorials.

SHRI NIHAL SINGH JAIN (Agra) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Agra is an important historical and religious tourist centre in India.

Besides the world renowned Taj Mahal, there are other historical places such as Agra Fort, Tomb of Etmad-ud-daula, Sikandara, Fatehpur Sikri, etc., which should be renovated from tourism point of view and preserved and protected from archaeological point of view. But it is a matter of regret that this historical and cultural heritage is being totally neglected. The loose stones on the outer wall of Agra Fort and cracks in the walls due to growth of plants and the deteriorating condition of the entrance to Tomb of Etmad-ud-daula is an ample evidence of the negligence in preserving these monuments.

Bateshwar, the birth place of the 22nd Tirthankar of Jain religion Shouripur, birth place of Shri Naiminathji and birth place of Surdasji and the famous Kailash Temple are important places from religious and cultural point of view. Agra is also the birth place of great patriot late Pt. Motilal Nehru, famous poets like Ghalib and Nazir. All these places are being neglected by the Centre and the State Governments.

I would like to draw the attention of the Central Government towards it and submit the following points :—

- (1) The birth places of Late Pt. Motilal Nehru, Ghalib and Nazir should be developed as national memorials.
- (2) Immediate arrangements should be made for the protection and beautification of historical monuments.
- (3) Schemes should be prepared for the development of religious places and executed immediately.

As industries are not being set up in Agra to save Taj Mahal from industrial pollution, it is essential to develop Agra as a place of tourist importance on priority basis.

- (ii) Demand for steps to eradicate poverty in the rural areas of the country

SHRI UMA KANT MISHRA (Mirzapur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Prime Minister has accorded top-most priority to the anti-poverty programme in the Twenty Point Programme. The number of poor is more in the rural areas. About 75 per cent people in the villages are living below the poverty line. As a result, resentment is increasing among the poor in the rural areas. Steps should, therefore, be taken on war footing to eradicate poverty in the rural areas. I give the following suggestions in this regard :

- (1) Plots and houses should be provided on priority basis and the village panchayat land and land declared surplus on account of ceiling should be distributed among the landless people for cultivation and possession thereof should be given to them.

- (2) Maximum assistance should be given to small farmers to increase production. Irrigation, fertilizer, improved seeds, modern techniques of cultivation, pesticides, etc. should be made available to them at cheap rates. Interest free loans should be given and they should be given reasonable prices of their agricultural produce.
- (3) The Integrated Rural Development Programme should be implemented on a wider scale and its implementation should be properly monitored so that the actual beneficiaries get the benefits.
- (4) More and more medium scale industries, village and cottage industries should be set up in the rural areas. The traditional village and cottage industries should be modernised and encouraged.
- (5) Priority should be given for the development and industrialisation of the backward areas, backward districts, backward sub-divisions, backward development-blocks and villages.
- (6) Under the National Rural Employment Scheme, Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Scheme and some other similar schemes, priority should be given to drinking water, school buildings, link roads, electrification, health facilities, etc., in the rural areas.
- (7) Maximum assistance should be given to the people in the rural areas during natural calamities.

(iii) Demand for continuing scholarship to SC/ST students studying in higher classes and raising the rate thereof

SHRI R. P. SUMAN (Akbarpur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, under Rule 377 I would like to raise the following matter :

Under the Constitution, the State must make arrangement for free education and scholarship to the students belonging to the scheduled castes and the scheduled tribes

throughout the country. On this basis, the students belonging to the above referred communities have been getting scholarships for pursuing post-matric studies. Keeping in view the present circumstances, it is necessary to increase the amount of scholarship because the books have become very costly. It is, therefore, necessary to enhance the present rates of scholarship for the students pursuing post-matric studies. Besides, it is also necessary to provide scholarship to all the students studying in the under-matric classes.

During the current year, the scholarship of those scheduled caste and scheduled tribe students in Uttar Pradesh has been stopped who are pursuing higher studies after the completion of their vocational education and full fee is being charged from them. It has caused great resentment among the above-mentioned communities. The students who want to pursue higher education would thus be deprived of this benefit. Therefore, I make a strong appeal to the Central Government to restore the scholarship facility to all those students belonging to the aforesaid communities who are studying in post-matric classes. The rates of the scholarship should also be enhanced so that they may acquire higher education and educational development of the people of the aforesaid communities may take place more speedily.

12.10 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

[*English*]

(iv) Steps to protect sick industries in Bihar

SHRI C. P. THAKUR (Patna) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Bihar at present has the lowest *per capita* income. Therefore, it can be considered a poor State on all counts. In this background, most of the large scale and small scale industries are lying sick.

Rohtas industry is lying sick since long and causing starvation of so many persons. Phulwari Cotton Mills is also lying sick and there are many more sick industries. Is the Government Planning to rescue these sick industries ?

(v) Demand for preserving the ecological balance in the Western Ghats

SHRI RANJIT SINGH GAEKWAD (Baroda) : Sir, the Western Ghats cover an area of approximately 51585 sq. miles spreading over five States geographically situated along the western peninsular side of the country, acting as a buffer for rainfall in the area which is about 520 cms. Due to this, the rain forests with rich flora and fauna are very few.

Due to indiscriminate encroachment and ill-conceived industrial growth this forest and its inhabitants are fast facing extinction. Dr. P. W. Richards, a British botanist has said that if proper care to safeguard these rain forests is not taken, they will all perish in another 30-40 years.

Hydroelectric projects, agricultural and industrial activities and mining work have all been responsible for destruction of the forests, hydroelectric projects being the biggest culprit of them all. Unlike those feeder rivers and streams which get their water from the melting snows of the Himalayas, the rivers and streams from the Western Ghats depend on the rain water which is again dependent on the rain forests. With the destruction of these forests rainfall is dropping rapidly and soil erosion has started causing silting. This in turn has affected the efficiency of the hydroelectrical projects. The Kali hydroelectric project is an excellent example of inefficiency due to silting. The Sharavathi project is another example where even with enough rain due to ecological balances the project is running at loss. I hope, the Government takes a serious view of the matter.

[*Translation*]

(vi) Need to direct the Rajasthan Government to stop recovery of dues from the Indira Gandhi Canal Project Area

SHRI BIRBAL (Ganganagar) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to raise a question of urgent public importance in the House.

The construction of Indira Gandhi Canal Project is being undertaken with the

special cooperation and assistance of the Central Government. The water courses have been brick-lined. Besides the estimated expenditure, the administrative expenditure, interest and compound interest work out to be 5 to 6 times the original allocation. The land for the construction of small drains has been acquired from the farmers. These drains have increased the irrigation capacity because of which the State Government will get more revenue. Why should the State Government then charge more from the farmers? The State Government should itself bear the whole expenditure.

There have been several other bunglings in the construction of brick-lined drains for which the farmers are being made to pay. The banks are issuing attachment notices to the farmers. There is great unrest among the farmers because they are being made to pay for the bunglings of the Department. I had also apprised the House of the facts in this regard during the last session. The neighbouring States of Punjab and Haryana have waived the loans of their farmers granted for bricklined water courses. The Rajasthan Government should also be asked to waive the loans. I would request the Central Government to issue immediate instructions to the Rajasthan Government to stop the realisation immediately, so as to provide relief to the farmers. Necessary orders should be issued to the Rajasthan Government to take appropriate action to solve the problems of the farmers.

[*English*]

(vii) Demand for measures for rapid industrialisation of Kerala

SHRI K. MOHANDAS (Mukundapuram) : Kerala is a state where Central investment is below the national average. This has held back the development of the state and pushed up unemployment. Kerala is one of the very few States which earn a lot of foreign exchange for the country. A major share of foreign remittances comes from the workers of Kerala who are contributing to the prosperity of the country by their hard work in the Gulf countries. Yet the state has not got its due share of central investment in the industrial sector.

Many proposals for new industries were submitted to the Centre from time to time. But so far nothing has been done.

Therefore, I would request the Government to prepare a plan for the rapid industrialisation of Kerala and make adequate financial provision in the next year's budget.

- (viii) Demand for a high-powered Committee to study the economic crisis in the film industry and to advise for reduction of taxes and curbing of video piracy

SHRI SUNIL DUTT (Bombay North West): Indian Film Industry, the world's largest producer of motion pictures, is fighting a losing battle for its survival today. This crisis has been brought about by a number of factors, most notably, the high incidence of taxation, both at the Centre and in the States. The onslaught of TV and rampant video piracy have caused irreparable damage to Cinema. Uncertified, objectionable and undesirable films through video continue to be exhibited clandestinely all over the country undermining the cultural and social framework.

The 31 day strike of the film industry in Maharashtra—with 1200 cinema houses closed down, dozens of studios and laboratories shut out, three lakh daily wage earners out of work—stands as a test case before us to prove how badly the film industry is affected with unimaginative taxes on Central and State levels. The strike is now called off, but how serious is the Maharashtra government in their attitude to rescue the film industry is still to be seen. The entire film industry of India is looking forward to the outcome of the Maharashtra Government's deliberations. I have a fear, that if no proper solution is found by 15th of December, film industry will be forced to close down again, not only in Maharashtra, but in all other States, rendering 25 lakh people jobless and causing a considerable dent in the government revenue and sounding the death knell for Indian film industry. This is a forewarning to the House and the Government. Therefore, it is imperative that the manifold crisis of the film industry needs to be discussed at length in the House.

And this is my submission to the House and Centre that a very high powered Committee should be constituted consisting of prominent people of the film industry, the government, economists and people from Culture, to conduct a deep study of the film industry's economic crisis and to advise the governments at the Centre and the States to reduce taxes and also to curb effectively video piracy so that the Indian film industry survives.

- (ix) Demand for measures to improve the conditions prevailing in Ranchi Mental Asylum

SHRI MOHD. MAHFOOZ ALI KHAN (Etah): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the inhuman conditions prevailing in the Ranchi Mental Asylum present a very painful picture of the plight of the mentally ill inmates. Every third day a patient dies because of starvation. Governments of six States *viz.*, Bihar, West Bengal, Orissa, Tripura, Manipur and Mizoram, each having a share of beds in the hospital are supposed to contribute proportionately towards the expenses. It is most unfortunate that these six States cannot even provide food to the dying patients. From 1970 to 1980 an average of 82 patients died of malnutrition. Between 1981 and 1985 there have been 188 deaths each year and during the first half of this year there were 74 deaths. Whereas the living allowance of the staff has increased manifold, the patients maintenance cost remains unchanged. With an annual budget of Rs. 1 crore, Rs. 70 lakh is spent on establishment leaving only 30 per cent for the patients' medicines, food, clothing and maintenance of the asylum. The asylum faces acute crisis of drinking water; toilets are choked and broken, fans are not working; fused bulbs and tubes are not replaced and there are rusted and broken iron cots which were provided in 1925. Ironically, the patients are examined by a former patient of the asylum. There is rampant corruption among the staff in admitting patients.

The patients who require more humane treatment to bring them to sanity are starving to death. I would, through this august House, urge upon the Government

to take immediate suitable measures to improve their lot and to reduce their sufferings.

12.20 hrs.

**CITIZENSHIP (AMENDMENT) BILL,
1986—Contd.**

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Now, we will take up Item No. 10, Clause by Clause consideration of the Bill, further to amend the Citizenship Act, 1955. Clause 2, Shri Mool Chand Daga. Are you moving.

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA (Pali) : No, I wanted...

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You are not moving. Then, you leave it. Now, the question is :

"That Clause 2 stand part of the Bill."

The Motion was adopted.

Clause 2 was added to the Bill.

(Interruptions)

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : I wanted to speak, but I was not allowed to speak.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I asked you, you didn't move.

Clause 3

(Amendment of section 5)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Mr. Daga, are you moving your Amendment ?

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : I beg to move :

Page 2, line 2,—

for "five" substitute "three" (3)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER Now, Mr. Mohanty.

SHRI BRAJAMOHAN MOHANTY (Puri) : Sir, he is trying to convince the Minister, otherwise, he will withdraw.

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : That is all right.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Mr. Mohanty, are you moving ?

SHRI BRAJAMOHAN MOHANTY : I shall only try to convince the hon. Minister.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You first say, whether you are moving or not and then you can convince him.

SHRI BRAJAMOHAN MOHANTY : That is all right.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : First you tell, are you moving the Amendment ?

SHRI BRAJAMOHAN MOHANTY : No, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Then, you leave it. Now, Shri Daga.

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : Now, the one amendment, which I have moved, wherein, it is said that "either of whose parents". I ask, "either of whose parents ? Why not both ? If, both the parents are citizens of India, then he should be treated as citizen of India.

Then, I ask for the insertion of one phrase "whose parents" ? If either of them goes, then what will happen ? So, I said, this is a harmless amendment and is very necessary. Please accept this Amendment.

Then, in the other Amendment, I have asked for the addition of the word "or" at the end of page 1, line 13. That should be accepted. I say, there is no harm in it.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : Sir, I am not quite clear about, what the hon. Member Shri Daga has in his mind. I think, he is referring to Clause 2 of the Bill.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : No. We are discussing Clause 3 of the Bill. Clause 2 is already over. It has been adopted.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : He is talking about Clause 2, Sir. Please ask him to speak about Clause 3. He is talking about Clause 2.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I had asked Dagaji, are you moving the Amendment for Clause 2. He said "no". After that, if you are speaking about Clause 2, then what is the use.

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : Since, you asked me to move, I moved.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : No, no. You said, no.

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : You are running very fast. I know that.

(Interruptions)

SHRI BRAJAMOHAN MOHANTY : You should allow us to make our points.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : No. I asked, whether you are moving ? You didn't reply. When first I ask you whether you are moving, you should say 'yes' or 'No'. Then only you can speak. Without that, you are moving. How can you speak on that amendment ?

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : You are going too fast, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : We have to go fast, Mr. Daga Ji. We cannot go very slow. Mr. Daga, what about clause 3 ? You have already moved your amendment to it. Are you speaking on that amendment ?

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : Yes.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You can now speak on Clause 3.

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : What was the object of the Bill ? It was that anybody can become a citizen of India after a period of six months' stay. I ask why you have fixed a period of five years

now. What is the sense in putting it as five years now ? Generally people who come to India and settle in India get the right of voting in local bodies' elections after a period of three years. In local bodies' elections we generally find that those citizens participate who are residing in India. You are saying that they can do so after five years of stay. That is too much. Therefore, I have reduced it, saying that it should be a period of three years. That is my suggestion.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Mr. Minister—now you can speak only on Clause 3.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Now, in Clause 3 we are amending Section 5 (1) (a) of the parent Act. In Section 5 (1) (a) there, the residential qualification fixed is six months, and it is being increased to five years. Mr. Daga suggests that we increase it from six months to only three years. On the contrary, Mr. Brajamohan Mohanty suggests...

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : He did not move.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : I am only pointing out the contrast. Mr. Mohanty says that we should increase it from five years to seven years. It is a matter of policy. It is a matter of judgement. Government thinks that five years is a reasonable qualification before a person can be said to have accepted the responsibilities of citizenship. I am sorry I cannot accept this amendment.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Mr. Daga, are you withdrawing your amendment.

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : I am not pressing.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Does Mr. Daga have the leave of the House to withdraw his amendment ?

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS : Yes.

Amendment No 3 was, by leave, withdrawn.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Now the question is :

[Mr. Deputy Speaker]

"That Clauses 3 and 4 stand part of the Bill"

The Motion was adopted.

Clauses 3 and 4 were added to the Bill.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

"That Clause 1, Enacting Formula and the Title stand part of the Bill."

The Motion was adopted.

Clause 1, Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Now the Minister...

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : I beg to move :

"That the Bill be passed."

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Does any hon. Member want to speak now ? All right.

Motion moved :

"That the Bill be passed."

Mr. Shahabuddin.

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN (Kishanganj) : Sir : At this stage I again wish to appeal to Government not to force this measure, which shall create many, many complications—administrative and political—in the years to come.

As I said yesterday, if we had a system of registering every birth, if we had a system of identifying and keeping a tag no every citizen and of knowing the national status of every person who is residing in India, then surely this could have been a practicable proposition. As it is, it is not. We have lakhs of people today whose citizenship and status are indeterminate. And by virtue of this enactment, this state of Statelessness will not be limited to them, but will be carried on from generation to generation, from father to son and

to the grandson, and thus it will be perpetuated, and will be a never-ending process.

Government have not yet given us any facts on the basis of which one could come to a judgement. We have only guesses. I had asked Government yesterday : why don't you have a census in Assam to determine how many people have infiltrated or immigrated or come into, or intruded into Assam or into India during the last 10 or 15 years ? Government is silent on that. Government has no idea about the number of people who have come; and Government is tarring everybody with the same brush.

I would like to point out that we face a tremendously difficult situation with regard to Sri Lanka. It occurs to me that when we enacted this Act in 1955, we had in our mind the persons of Indian origin who were born on the soil of Sri Lanka coming into India and being granted not only asylum but a guarantee about citizenship not only for themselves but for their progeny also who were born on the soil of India. Assuming this proposed law was then in force, all those 15 lakh people, who have acquired Indian citizenship coming from Sri Lanka since 1954 would not have been able to have that status or privilege. That is why I am saying that this is a misconceived notion of protecting the integrity of India. You must protect the integrity of India of defending it against infiltration.

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU (Gobichettipalayam) : No, it is not from 1954; it is from 1964.

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN : But this was applied also with retrospective effect. People had been coming into India, but the Agreement came later; and then it regularised the status of those who had already come in; and it was also agreed to regularise the status of all those who were to come in. Therefore, we are faced with a situation where you are banging the doors and by enacting this legislation you are really diverting the attention from the primary task of safeguarding the border of the country and you are also putting into the mind of the country a sense of shame, because today we are disowning those about whom we have always felt responsible,

Parsis came into India a thousand years ago. Suppose this law was in force then where would all the Parsis be? Their fathers were not born in India; their fathers were born in Iran or somewhere. Our country has had a tradition to which Shri Pant referred when he introduced the citizenship Bill in the Lok Sabha and in the Rajya Sabha. That is why I suggest that government should work out necessary logistic arrangement, work out a foolproof system about safeguarding the border, about determining the citizenship of every person residing in India whether he is a foreigner or he is a citizen and have a perfect system of registering every birth. Then you come with this Bill and I shall support it. But, today, it is vicious; it is also against national interest and administratively impossible.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Basirhat) : This amending Bill seeks to change substantially, I should say basically the practice which has been in force for the last 36 years continuously. Therefore, it is an important piece of legislation. For the moment, I won't go into the question as to whether it will pass the constitutional test of Article 14, that is the headach of the government; they must have been assured by their legal advisors that it is a sound legislation. But as far as, not being a lawyer, I can say that there have been some instances in the not so distant past when this legislative practice of arbitrarily fixing a particular date which has no principle or no policy behind it to justify the selection of that date; and on the basis of that date dividing the citizens of the country into two categories and discriminating between them, has been struck down by the Supreme Court on the ground of it being violative of Article 14; and all the people who were born before a particular date that is the date on which this Bill will come into force will continue to have benefit to the extent that those who were born in this country would become citizens of India by birth; whether anybody born in this country subsequent to the date of legislation coming into force will be a citizen by birth only if one of his parent is already an Indian citizen. I do not know whether this will really hold water. Of course, I agree with the Minister that if this had been given retrospective effect, there would have been chaos and it would have been really led to a very undesirable state of affairs.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur) : That would have amounted to deprivation !

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : It would have led to all sorts of things. Now, as far as this provision is concerned, my party does not oppose it.

Why? Because we have in mind that due to unnatural division of the country which took place all these problems have arisen. The Statement of Objects and Reasons has referred to large numbers of people coming in from Sri Lanka, and Bangladesh and from some African countries. It does not mention Nepal; it does not mention Pakistan. I do not know why. I mean, in that case the same standards should be applied to people who can cross the border easily both from Nepal as well as from Pakistan; and people do come. But here they have mentioned specifically only two countries and referred to some African countries. I do not know what are those African countries and from where people have been coming clandestinely. Of course, there are large number of Africans in this country as students and so on, we know that. I do not know to whom he refers as Africans coming here clandestinely. Perhaps, he might shed some light on this when he replies. Anyway, as far as those people are concerned, who, due to the partition of the country later had to come back to this country as refugees, *bona fide* refugees, people who were compelled either by political persecution or by some economic deprivation, their property being taken away, or something like that, compelled to come back to India from wherever they had gone after partition. I hope that the Government is not contemplating to go back on the commitment which was already made in the tradition of this country in the past, from Pandit Nehru's time, and of course that is not a legislation, it is only a commitment; a commitment was made, that such *bona fide* refugees who seek asylum or shelter in India, will be given shelter here. They will not be thrown out or chucked out. We wish this Bill included that it is directed at people who are not coming in here as refugees but to others coming for any other purpose. I hope this is the position of the Government still, and the Government should make it clear. If they want this legislation to have

[Shri Indrajit Gupta]

the support of the country, it should be accompanied by a reiteration of that assurance and that commitment. The Government may say that there is no problem of refugees in future. How do we know? We do not know. Of course big problems had come up at various times during the last 36 years. These people have come. They are here, they are absorbed in the country. Nobody can chuck them out or do anything about it. But we do not know, we cannot say, what will happen in future, in Bangladesh or in Sri Lanka or in Pakistan, which may compel people, innocent people, to leave those countries and seek shelter. In such a case, at least we should bear in mind the commitments which were given in the past and we stand by them.

The population problem is a different question. That should not be mixed up with this. Even if you prevent everybody from outside coming here your population will continue to increase by leaps and bounds unless some other measures are taken. That is a different question.

So, as far as this provision is being made, now to get citizenship by birth, one of the parents should be an Indian citizen, all right, I support this, because I think that there is nothing wrong in that, that practice is there in many countries of the world. And at the moment, in the prevailing situation it is not going to create any very serious complication.

But the other provisions of the Bill, which in the name of stringency have very drastically increased the periods required for them originally to apply for registration, somebody who is not a citizen has come to this country and applies for registration for Indian citizenship, it was six months and it is now becoming five years. I can understand instead of six months if it is made one year or two years or even three years. But what is the reason of switching over from six months to five years? Assuming there is a person who understandably wants to register as a citizen of this country, he will not be allowed even to apply for registration until he has been residing here for five years and this is not clear as to what will be his status during those five

years. During the period his application for registration is pending, he is a stateless person. He is not an Indian citizen.

SHRI BHOLA NATH SEN (Calcutta South) : He is an Indian national.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : What is an Indian national? This is a new category which is being introduced by some Members. He is not an Indian citizen and, therefore, he is applying for registration. For 36 years what was the difficulty you had when the provision was that he or she must ordinarily be a resident for six months before he or she could apply for registration? What was the great difficulty or crisis that you faced because of this that from six months you have to increase it immediately to five years? I think, these are unnecessary hardships being put on people who want to register themselves as Indian citizens. They will have to fulfil all the other qualifications, whatever they are. This is simply for applying for registration. Why should it be made five years instead of six months? I do not understand this. I think, this is unnecessarily severe in the name of stringency. This is not going to prevent people coming from outside if they are under compulsion to come. If the idea is to prevent the entry into India, you do not want unauthorised entry, you do not want clandestine entry, we also do not want it. We do not want huge number of people to remain in this country, whose citizenship status is undetermined. It is in our interest that their citizenship status should be determined as soon as possible. If they are eligible for registration, they should be registered within a reasonable time. If they are not eligible for registration, well, they cannot be citizens. Then the Government will have to deal with them in a different way. But by making this eligibility period as five years instead of six months, I think, this is not at all convincing as to why this is being done. Simply to say that we have to be stringent, it does not make any sense. This is talking like Margaret Thatcher. You should not take a page out of her book. In the beginning, I know, in England there was a provision that anybody who was born in the UK was eligible to be the UK citizen by birth. I know that some people of this country who were born in the UK and whose both parents were Indians, became

UK citizens. I do not know whether Margaret Thatcher still retains that provision or not. That was the position here also. Possibly we borrowed it from the UK because we borrowed many thing from the UK. And for 36 years this went on like this. Now to introduce this provision that at least one parent should be Indian citizen, in my opinion, is all right; there is nothing wrong in that. But these provisions which are introduced here, the qualification period for registration, the qualification period for seeking naturalization, the periods have been increased from 7 years to 12 years and from 4 years to 9 years. What is the greater security or greater stability of the population that you are going to get as a result of this? I do not agree with these at all. The first clause I am willing to support, because, I think, it is necessary now provided it is accompanied again by the Government policy assurance that in future if cases occur of genuine refugees, people, who are persecuted in those countries, come here for shelter, we will not go back on our commitment and we will stand by that commitment. Then it has some meaning. Otherwise, the implications would be quite serious and undesirable.

So, I would like the Minister to clarify these points.

SHRI BRAJAMOHAN MOHANTY (Puri) : This Bill is in the right direction. I am happy that the hon. Minister has said that this is only one step taken for introducing a clause of rigidity in the law of citizenship.

I want to point out one thing. Now the self-styled Commander-in-Chief of "Khalistan" is a citizen of India. The people who are agitating in Jammu and Kashmir in favour of Pakistan and for plebiscite, are citizens of India. So, how can both the things continue? No doubt, when the Citizenship Act was passed, that was a different period, the period of partition. The shadow of partition overshadowed all other considerations. But now the things have changed. You know about the Nepalese people how they are doing mischief here. So, there should be a certain degree of rigidity and, therefore, I say that the Bill is in the right direction...

One thing I would like to know from

the hon. Minister. Article 11 of the Constitution gives power...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN : Does the Government agree that the Nepalese people are committing mischief in this country?

SHRI BRAJAMOHAN MOHANTY : I will answer to that. The Government during the Question Hour has admitted what is being done by some organisations in Jammu and Kashmir and that they are actively working for merger of Kashmir.....*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN : I am talking about Nepalese.

SHRI BRAJAMOHAN MOHANTY : So, Sir, both the things should not continue. My submission is let the hon. Minister examine as to what can be done about Article 11 of the Constitution which gives power to this Parliament. Both the things cannot continue together. That is one aspect of the matter.

Another thing to which I would like to invite the attention of the hon. Minister is section 5 of the Citizenship Act. Section 5 gives power to the Government that restrictions for allowing registration can be prescribed. But during all these years no restriction has been prescribed. So, naturally, my submission is that that aspect should be examined.

The third thing I would like to point out to the hon. Minister is the oath of allegiance. Is it adequate? It requires to be examined. Somebody may say he has faith and allegiance in the Constitution of India but he does not say that he has no allegiance in the Constitution of any other country of the world. Of course, under the Indian Citizenship Act, the allegiance to both the countries will not be tolerated but as a matter of fact, they can continue with it. Somebody may say he has allegiance to the Constitution of Pakistan. The 1973 Constitution does not operate there. It has been abrogated. So, somebody may say he has faith and allegiance in the Pakistan's Constitution as well as in the Indian Constitution. That is why my submission is that oath and allegiance should be legally

[Shri Brajamohan Mohanty]

examined and appropriate provisions should be made.

Another thing which has been referred to is regarding our diplomats having foreign wives. That is a very nice topic. I am very happy that the Government of India has taken a rigid stand that no foreign lady would be allowed to marry our diplomats. That is all right. Government should stick to it. Thank you very much.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Sir, three hon Members have requested for clarification on certain points and they have made certain observations. I do not think Mr. Shahabuddin was present in the House when I replied to the debate yesterday. Mr. Gupta was also not here, and that is perhaps why some of these questions are being raised again.

As far as Constitutionality is concerned, I can only repeat that Government has received good advice that the Bill is primarily Constitutional. As far as the new clauses (a) and (b) are concerned, which have been introduced in the Bill, the difference is that earlier we rested solely on the principle of *jus soli*; today we are moving away, like many other countries have moved away, to the principle of *jus sanguinis*, coupled with the element of *jus soli*. This is not unknown to many many countries in the world and I think, for the reasons which I said yesterday, we are perfectly justified in moving to the principle of *jus sanguinis* with an element of *jus soli*.

Shri Shabbuddin mentioned that this Bill will effect people in Assam. Yesterday, I made it clear and I wish to make it clear once again that the Assam Accord has been taken care of in Section 6A which was introduced earlier this year and made part of the Act. If you will kindly see the Citizenship Act, Section 6A is a self-contained scheme and every step that is necessary to be taken in pursuance of the Assam Accord is contained in Section 6A. In fact Section 6A contains its own definition and it contains its own substantive provisions and it contains its own procedural provisions. This Bill seeks to amend only Sections 3, 5 and 6 and no impact, I repeat

'no impact' is there on the Assam Accord. There is no intention of diluting the Assam Accord.

People who have come into Assam and who are eligible for citizenship will be governed by Section 6A for the period which is provided for in the Assam Accord viz., people who came prior to 1966 and then people who came between 1966 and 1971. I need only point out that two hon. Members from Assam who spoke on the Bill recognised this position and that is why they have also supported this Bill.

Shri Indrajit Gupta asked me which are the African countries from which people are coming? Some people of Indian stock, Indian origin have come in from Uganda, Tanzania and Kenya. We are not against people coming in. If you will kindly see the Statement of Objects and Reasons we are concerned about clandestine entry of a large number of people. People come into this country clandestinely. Naturally we must be on the guard. We must be vigilant. We must tighten up our laws, so that people in other countries do not think that anybody can get into India at any time and after a period of time they can acquire citizenship.

SHRI H.A. DORA (Srikakulam) : What about Nepal and Pakistan? (*Interruptions*)

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Pakistan has not been (*Interruptions*). I do not wish to discuss each country separately. So far as Nepal is concerned...

SHRI H.A. DORA : That question has not been answered.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : I am answering. So far as Nepal is concerned, the House is aware it is governed by certain provisions of the Indo-Nepal Treaty and, therefore, just as the Indian citizens are entitled to go to Nepal and enjoy certain rights, Nepal citizens are also entitled to come to India and enjoy certain rights. That is the sum and substance of the Articles 6 and 7 of the Indo-Nepal Treaty which was discussed in the last Session of Parliament.

Shri Indrajit Gupta asked a question— are you not fixing an arbitrary date?

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Is there no clandestine entry from Pakistan ?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : As far as people from Pakistan are concerned, Government has said that borders are under constant watch and we do not encourage any one from Pakistan to enter India and in fact B S F. and other forces have taken very stern measures against people entering from Pakistan. We are talking of clandestine entry and not entry with proper documents.

SHRI H.A. DORA : Are you sure about it that there is no clandestine entry from Pakistan ?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : I do not say nobody enters clandestinely. All I can say is that we are vigilant against clandestine entry.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : What about people with visa who stay on after the visa period has expired ?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : I am answering that.

Shri Indrajit Gupta asked me, can you fix an arbitrary date ? May I tell him with great humility—every Act has a date of commencement. When no date of commencement is fixed, the date of commencement is the date on which President gives his assent. Today, most legislations fix the date of commencement of the Act. Such a provision is provided for in this Act also. We have to fix the date of commencement of the Act. Yesterday, I explained that while fixing the date of commencement, we shall take into account the possible hardship to children who may be born during the period the Bill is being debated and passed. And we shall fix the date of commencement so that people will now notice that on and from this date the primary principle of citizenship in this country is *jus sanguine* with an element of *jus soli* and not *jus soli* alone. It is a well-known legislative device and I see no difficulty in fixing a date of commencement of the Act.

Sir, again a question was raised : 'Why are you raising the period from 6 months to 5 years ?' All I can answer is that while we think 5 years is reasonable, hon. Member Mr. Mool Chand Daga thought that 3 years

is reasonable; hon. Member Mr. Mohanty thinks that 7 years is reasonable. We have to fix a certain period. So we think that 6 months is too short for any one to come and settle down in this country and understand and accept the responsibilities of citizenship. Six months is too short to detect clandestine entry, six months is too short to find out what activities a person indulges in during his stay in India. So, on the one hand we have to make it clear to people who want to come to this country that acquiring citizenship is not so easy any more. They have to stay here for a reasonable length of time, they have to understand the responsibilities of citizenship in this country and we must have enough time...

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : What is their status during those 5 years ? I have put a specific question.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : I am answering it. I am coming to that. I have noted it. I have noted all your questions. You asked me about 6 months, then you asked me about the status. I have noted them all, I am coming to them one by one. Please allow me to answer. If anything is left over, then I will answer again.

We think, Sir, that 5 years is a reasonable period both for the applicant and for the Government, particularly for the Government, to find out what activities he indulges in and to also detect any one whom we hear has come in clandestinely. We think 5 years is necessary and so 5 years are kept. So, the question was asked : What is the status ? The answer is simple in law. Any person who is not a citizen of India is, as far as Indian laws are concerned a foreigner. A foreigner may have the citizenship of another country, he may not have the citizenship of another country. But to Indian law he is a foreigner. A foreigner can come into India and remain in India only with a proper visa. We are granting visas for genuine applicants who come into this country; we are extending visas from time to time, but if the person does not have a visa in the sense that he has come into this country without visa, or he remains in this country after the expiry of visa, let me make it clear, Sir, he is a foreigner, he is liable to expulsion. We are not compromising on that, we do not want people

[Sri P. Chidambaram]

to come into this country without a visa, we do not want people to overstay in this country beyond the expiry of the period of visa. We intend to take strong action. Then there are considerable difficulties. There are tremendous difficulties in detecting persons and expelling them, but we intend to strengthen vigil; we are not going to allow the people to come into this country without proper documents or overstay in this country after the expiry of the visa. In fact, many many countries in the world to which, I am sure, hon. Members have been, are very strict about people entering without documents and overstaying the period for which they have been given visas.

Sir, hon. Member Mr. Mohanty has made some very useful suggestions about exercising the power to terminate citizenship in certain cases. He has also said that we must review the restrictions and the conditions we impose for granting citizenship. He has also asked us to examine their origin. Sir, I may tell him that all these points are constantly under review and we shall keep his suggestions in mind. *(Interruptions)*. We shall keep his suggestions in mind and we will review them.

In conclusion, may I submit that as I said, this is the first place to begin with in respect of citizenship laws. We have to do more to prevent people coming into this country clandestinely, we have to prevent uninterrupted, clandestine influx of people in to this country and I think we have made a good beginning. I once again appeal through you, Sir, to the hon. House to support this measure.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : You have not answered specific questions.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : I have answered every point you raised.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : I am not talking now about the people who have entered clandestinely. Somebody has come here and he wants to apply for registration, he cannot apply according to your Amendment Bill until he has already been resident here for 5 years. I wanted to know,

13.00 hrs.

what would be the legal status of those persons during those five years ?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : If he has a visa, he is a foreigner resident in India.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Will you extend his visa for 5 years ?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : We are extending visas for people. We are extending visas for people whose activities are not undesirable and who have a genuine reason to come to India and stay in India.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : So, will you give him a visa until his application for registration is disposed of ?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : If we find that his stay here is not desirable, we will expel him. If we find that his stay here is not undesirable, we will extend the visa, if he has a genuine reason to stay in India. If he has no reason to stay in India, we will not extend his visa.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : What about the commitment of *bona fide* refugees ?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : We must wake up to the modern world. No country in the world has an open door policy. I know countries which are very tight in this respect. We are not going to have loose and liberal provisions. We are going to have provisions which are tight but which will be applied fairly and in a non-discriminatory fashion. If a man has got a genuine reason to come to India, if he has a genuine reason to stay in India and his activities are not undesirable, he will be given a visa to stay in India.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

"That the Bill be passed."

The motion was adopted.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Now we adjourn for Lunch, and meet at 2.00 p.m.

13 02 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch till Fourteen of the Clock.

The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch at five minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER in the Chair]

DISCUSSION ON ETHNIC PROBLEM OF TAMILIANS IN SRI LANKA

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Now, we take up Agenda Item No. 13—Discussion under Rule 193. Shri Bhattam Sriramamurthy will initiate the discussion.

SHRI BHATTAM SRIRAMA MURTY (Visakhapatnam) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, at the outset, I record my sense of protest against the way in which the militant Tamil leaders of Sri Lanka are treated in Tamilnadu by the State Government and at the instance of the Government of India.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajapur) : With the concurrence of the Centre...

SHRI BHATTAM SRIRAMA MURTY : They are leaders of a freedom movement. They are fighting for their own home-land. They are fighting for right of self-determination. You may agree or not; they have put up not only a strong fight but also they have shown an unprecedented bravery, valour and they have undergone untold sufferings and hardships. They have made great sacrifices. These freedom fighters today are in a position to form the Government in the North of Sri Lanka. They can have their own civil administration. They can have their own Secretariat. They can set up their rural Courts. This is the position to which they have arrived at today. Those leaders are now treated in a shabby manner in the State of Tamilnadu, by arresting them; interrogating them; detaining them in their own houses just like ordinary criminals. This is unbecoming. This is highly reprehensible.

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU (Gobichettipalayam) : Sir, as far as Tamil Nadu is concerned, we are treating them as guests, with dignity and honour.

SHRI BHATTAM SRIRAMA MURTY : In any case, you are having your say. My

feeling is that you are all acting at the behest of the Government of India. Therefore, they are all arrested there.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Perhaps he means that hospitality is due to them; hostilities are due to the Centre.

(Interruptions)

SHRI BHATTAM SRIRAMA MURTY : This is unfortunate. This is unprecedented. This is detestable; reprehensible. Nothing more I can say about this. The main point is this. It is said that the Centre has nothing to do with this episode. It is only the Police action by the State Government. The Centre wants to absolve itself of all responsibilities for this. This is worse. Can anybody take this version for granted? The international community exercises its wisdom. Nobody is prepared to take this version of the Government of India for granted. In this connection I would like to read a news item which has appeared in the Times of India. They call it 'Operation Disarm'. This is not for any criminal act of anybody. This action is meant for disarming the militants. This is called 'Operation Disarm'. The paper has also said that the disarming operation of the militants has obviously taken place at the instance of the Centre. The Centre is very much in the picture. My friend Mr. Kolandaivelu may have said something. But they are acting on behalf of the Central Government. I am squarely blaming the Centre. The Government of Tamil Nadu are now acting as per the instructions of the Government of India. May I also refer to a Press report in the Hindu by no less a person than Shri G. K. Reddy, a veteran, seasoned and senior journalist? Having so much of access to the Prime Minister and to the highest circles of administration. He has stated :

"The Centre is understood to have directed the Tamil Nadu Government to place a number of Sri Lankan Tamil militant leaders under house arrest until the end of the Bangalore SAARC summit for security reasons."

Everybody is of the same opinion. It has been done obviously at the instance of the Government of India and perhaps in con-

[Shri Bhattam Srirama Murty]

sultation with them; they had initiated action because of the Government of India. Not only that, it is also stated here :

"It was decided by them..."

That is, the Prime Minister and the Chief Minister during the latter's recent visit here :

"It was decided by them yesterday when they met in Delhi to confine these Tamil militants to their homes until the conclusion of the SAARC Conference."

What does it go to show ? Everybody is of the opinion that the Centre has everything to do. When you act you hold yourself responsible for your action. Why do you adopt this ostrich policy ? Why do you think that the whole world is also sleeping when you are asleep ? It is wide awake, with eyes wide open. They are able to understand what is what. Therefore, let not the Government adopt this kind of attitude. Let them take up a stand, strong, stiff, stern, definite, deliberate and bold and let them hold themselves responsible for that. We will appreciate that. Whether it is right or wrong, it does not matter. They must have the courage of conviction and take action. That is what is wanting from the beginning. That is how this issue has been dragging on for years together. It is very unfortunate. There is no Minister in the Ministry of External Affairs who is solely and mainly responsible and in charge of Sri Lanka issue. Number of Ministers may come and go. It is a different matter. After all, Cabinet is a pack of cards in the hands of the Prime Minister. He can shuffle and reshuffle it as he pleases. We cannot question it. He can do that. A number of Ministers in the Ministry of External Affairs may come and go. What I want is, exclusively for dealing with this question of the problem of Tamils in Sri Lanka, let there be a Minister, devoted entirely, fully and solely to this problem and let him be made responsible for that. Otherwise, it will be difficult for anybody to show results.

There is a very unfortunate situation where the leaders of the Tamil Movement

are arrested. It has a demoralising effect. It will certainly hamper the progress of the negotiations and everything else. Without these militant leaders, you will not be able to continue negotiations and achieve a lasting solution. It is impossible. You must realise that. The TULF leaders have done their very best. I congratulate them and I thank them for that. They have helped the Government of India, they have co-operated with them; whenever they wanted them, they participated in the discussions and negotiations either in Thimpu or in Colombo even at the cost of losing their own goodwill among the people; some of the militant leaders of Sri Lanka did it. But what is happening today ? What has happened to them ? They have now gone to the background. Unless the militant leaders also take part in the negotiations, no solution is possible. Not only this Government but the Government of Sri Lanka also realised this. Therefore, they must be made a party to the negotiations. Without their participation, no lasting solution is possible. Under these circumstances, I question : this is the treatment which you want to give to them. That is why I call it unfortunate, it is reprehensible. The point is this. As a matter of fact, the Centre may have two objectives. One may be that in the coming SAARC meeting, the Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi may hold discussions with Mr. Jayewardene to pave the way for further negotiations, discussions and things like that. He wanted to placate Mr. Jayewardene. That may be one reason possibly. The other reason is that the Centre may want to force the militant Tamil leaders to agree to go to the negotiation table.

Let me examine the first one namely, Mr. Jayewardene's attitude and the possible outcome of future negotiations at the SAARC summit at Bangalore. Sir, I have no hope whatsoever that anything worthwhile will come out of this because of the attitude of Sri Lanka which is very clear. Sri Lankans are following a particular pattern. They want military action and military solution first and later a political solution. If you don't want this, they want to combine both military action and political solution simultaneously. They want to conduct operations against the Sri Lankan Tamils, use violence, kill as many

as possible, do whatever they want and then request them to come to the negotiation table. That is the pattern that is being followed by them.

In the Bangalore SAARC meeting possibly what I visualise is that, please mark my words Mr. Minister, Mr. Jayewardene will have a word of advice from the Prime Minister of India. He has already said that "he is like my grand-son". He would say that "you have already done enough, you have already made a beginning, you have now to mount pressure against the militants and dismantle their camps further in order to achieve more. Then only there will be a lasting peace." Mr. Jayewardene may tender similar advice.

[Translation]

SHRI BAPULAL MALVIYA (Shajapur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, is the hon. Member aware of the facts or is it something imaginary? Is this the way?

(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI BHATTAM SRIRAMA MURTY: The men and materials are moving towards the north. The troop movement is already towards Jaffna. Therefore, soon after SAARC meeting is over, the bombardment will take place, people will be destroyed, villages will be ravaged and totally destroyed. That will happen. That will be the outcome of the SAARC so far as I could understand.

May be, it is a flight of imagination as my friend would like to put it. Let me see how the future events will turn out to be. After all, it is a question of trends of history with the help of which we may be able to see what is going to happen in future. This is the trend which is already available. The portents are obvious.

May I now say for the benefit of the Minister that on 1st June 1985 when President Jayewardene was here in Delhi for negotiations, for discussion with our Prime Minister, at that time what happened in Sri Lanka? Hundreds of villages were demolished and destroyed. They were all out to annihilate the Tamil population of

Sri Lanka. One of my friends whom I had occasion to meet recently said that 56 members of his family—all relations were done to death in the course of two hours. Men and women were mercilessly massacred. Nobody could help. When all that was done, Mr. Jayewardene was here at Delhi to participate in negotiations. On June 18th, after completing all the demolition operations, he said "ceasefire". That was cleared. What is the use? Please see what had happened. The same thing will be repeated again after SAARC meeting. That is my apprehension. I can't say much more. Probably I cannot read more. I am not a seer, I am not a prophet. I cannot foresee what is going to happen; but the course of history shows the trends and it is for us to read from them.

So far as militants are concerned what is the position? Government of India may try to coerce them to bring them to the conference table. If so, this is not the way to achieve this objective. I would like to differ. My own feeling is that they may like rather to pack up, lock stock and barrel and leave this land and go to the shores of their own country, shed their blood and die, if necessary, rather than being humiliated in this country. You please do not throw self-respecting leaders to that sense of desperation. I hope this will not happen. It should not happen too. I want them to come to the negotiating table. I want a lasting solution to be achieved through discussions and negotiations.

Mr. Chander Hasan and his friends are on a relay fast. Their counter-parts are wedded to something different. So what is the alternative for them? If they want to go on in a peaceful fashion conducting negotiations will it result in something substantial? Therefore, we cannot say what is correct and what is not correct or what is good and what is not good. I can only recall at this moment what Mahatma Gandhi had once said. He was an exponent of the creed of non-violence. Even then he had said that he preferred violence to cowardice. He had said if you do not kill somebody at least get killed for a cause. Therefore, they are left with no option. The militants are there. They are in the focus because of the action of the Government of India. The arrest of militants in

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Tamil Nadu is traced to law and order problem. Is it a mere law and order problem? If it is a law and order problem then those people guilty on an offence may be put behind the bars and action taken against them. But that is not what has happened there. All the leaders of the four militant organisations were simultaneously arrested and their offices raided and their arms and weapons seized. All of them were arrested. I am told they are under house arrest. This is what has happened at Chingleput, Tiruchirapalli, Thanjavur, Salem, Ramanathapuram, etc. This is a concerted, deliberate and pre-planned action. In the process my apprehension is that we are exposed. Government of India is exposed. All along we had held the view and told other countries that there is no militant camp here in this country. We are not harbouring them. There are no Tamil militants stationed in this country. They are not operating from here. But now what do the press reports say? The press reports say that a large quantity of arms and ammunition seized which included SAM missiles, rocket launchers, AK 47 automatic and semi-automatic guns, two inch mortars, hand grenades and rifles. That means you are harbouring them. In this process we are exposed. With what face you will put forth any proposal before Shri Jayawardene who is coming to attend the SAARC meeting? My point is if you wanted to do that you could have done it in a silent manner. This is not the way to do things. I do not know why Government has lost the sense of proportion and sense of understanding of the dynamics of international politics. What reflection does it cast? Is the world not aware of what is happening here and what conclusion the other countries would draw from this? If the Government of India thinks that Sri Lankan Government will be satisfied with this, you are mistaken, you will be surely disappointed. Athulathmudali, the National Security Minister has come forward with a statement that the militant leaders were just arrested and released after a few hours. He is not satisfied with this. He says: "My view point was vindicated; my version was proved." Now, you want to strengthen the hands of the Sri Lankan Government. It is a very sorry picture that you are presenting to the world.

Apart from this, what do the Human Rights Commission say? As late as October 3, a large number of Tamil civilians were massacred and thousands rendered homeless by Sri Lankan army in the coastal belt of Trincomalee. What does the report in the Hindu say? It says:

"Over a thousand army and navel personnel launched a combined attack from land, sea and air on civilian targets destroying hundreds of houses, schools, and temples. The troops indulged in a frenzy of arson, loot and rape. Innocent people were rounded up and slaughtered. Air Force planes started bombing villages in a search and destroy mission."

Can you stop this? This has been happening mercilessly and continuously.

Apart from the need for your coming to the rescue of the unfortunate Tamil brethren in Sri Lanka, I would like to ask what you have done for the fishermen of this country?

Could you get compensation for them? Did you insist for that? No compensation has been paid to Indian citizens who suffered lossess and damage in Sri Lanka in 1983. Nothing has been done for them so far.

Then, the London based Amnesty International, which is the 1977 Noble Prize winner, charged that the Sri Lankan Government was not taking any action to clarify the fate of more than 300 Tamils who are alleged to have been abducted. The Human Rights Organization in a letter to Athulathmudali, Minister of National Security said that Colombo should now consider inviting 'UN Working Group on Disappearances' to examine these cases, but it had no response. The Amnesty International said that the Sri Lankan Government have not taken any action to clarify 272 cases. This is continuing and will continue. There is no other go. You have to put up with this. Can the Government stop this rampage? Can they do anything?

What do the Tamil leaders want? They want the women, children and others should not be done to death, they want that their

womenfolk should not be abducted and raped; they want protection for their own life. Do they want anything more? Can you do this much? You cannot do that. In that case, is it a futile exercise that you have been doing all the time? Shri Natwar Singh has had a long stay in the Ministry of External Affairs. He is a good man and I wish that he may be able to do something. It is not a question of dealing with Sri Lanka alone. Britain, China, Italy, South Africa and United States of America have been supplying Sri Lanka with various kinds of arms and equipment which has been used to oppress Tamilians. Israel has also provided army experts; Britain's channel islands are supplying the Colombo regime with mercenaries. Sri Lankan troops are trained in Pakistan. Israel sent a fleet of naval craft. Now Sri Lanka wants warships! On top of all this, comes the news that the US State Department has decided to include Sri Lanka in the list of countries entitled for aid to deal with terrorists. Most of the military aid to the extent of several billions go to Ceylon already.

So Sir, it is time that India takes it up with the United States of America in all seriousness. America should be told that any military assistance to Jayewardene will have the effect of unleashing a reign of terror on Tamils and it would be considered an unfriendly act and it will sour our Indo-US relations.

Jayewardene now says that he will stop food supply, electricity supply and so on. He insists that the Government of India should pledge itself to cooperate fully with the Sri Lankan Government with a view to bring about a rapprochement or settlement and bring the militants to their feet. What is all this? How absurd this proposition is! Unless there is total ceasefire, unless there is complete unanimity as far as ceasefire is concerned, it is impossible. What is it that the Friends of EEAAM are fasting here for? What is their demand? They want that the indiscriminate arrest of Tamils should be stopped. They want that the indefinite and endless incarceration of Tamils should be stopped. They want that the torture of Tamils should be stopped. They also want that destruction of Tamil villages and places of worship should be stopped and they want

that summary killings and rape should be stopped. This is their demand and they want nothing more than this.

Even under the Terrorists Act, four categories of people are kept in prison. Their cases were reviewed and re-examined by experts, for instance by the Attorney General and the Advisory Board. Those people recommended that they may be let off because there was no reason and their imprisonment was unwarranted. So their continued imprisonment is baseless and meaningless, and they have been advised by their own authorities that these people may be released. Even then, they do not release them and about 1050 persons are still there and about 4500 people are now rotting in jails. Can you do anything for them? Can you help them in any manner? If you will not be able to do anything for them, then nothing else can be done.

So far as the stand of the militants is concerned, they have got valid reasons. They visualise certain difficulties after the package of proposals are out forward. Now our friend, the young Minister Shri Chidambaram did very well. He went to Colombo at a time when we all felt that it was a dead end and there was a stalemate. At that time he went there and he had a round of discussions and certain formulations were proposed. This was followed by two rounds of discussions. We hoped that further discussions also might follow. So, now the question is a matter of debate and discussion.

The main thing is that the proposal provides for separate councils for Northern and Eastern provinces. The militants wanted that the two provinces may be combined. Earlier they said about only one. Now they have stated that two of them should be combined. This is the point. They feel that there is contiguity and there is majority of Tamil people in these two provinces and since these two are knit together by bonds of friendship, kinship and friendly relations and in every manner, they feel that the two provinces should be combined together. According to the present formulation, the Centre has the right to dispose of land for irrigation and land development programmes. In this regard they had some bitter experience in

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the past. With a view to reduce Tamil majority in certain pockets, they will forceably settle some Sinhalese Persons in those areas. This is the practice. Therefore, they said that this would not do. This question of land settlement, development and selling of land should vest with the State Government only, *i.e.* the provincial Government. This is what they have said.

Then, again, the Parliament there has got powers to legislate on subjects within the jurisdiction of provinces. This again is not acceptable to them.

The President has got the sweeping emergency powers. In the name of law and order, the Centre has got over-riding powers. Therefore, Sir, they say, the proposals are inadequate. They fail to meet the basic aspirations of the people. Therefore, they have totally rejected, the premises on which the proposals are made. They have inalienable right for their own homeland. They should have a right of self-determination—the devolution of powers—as in the case of India. It does not hold good in respect of Sri Lanka because that happens to be racist regime. It is merciless and ruthless in its dealings with Tamils. So, that being the case, there is some point in that and that has got to be debated, discussed and thrashed out further, in whatever manner possible. Therefore, you strengthen the hands of those people and do not break their backbone, you do not break their morale and you do not shatter the hopes of the people by resorting to unfortunate methods. What has happened to the people, who are now taking refuge in other lands? Sir, people have taken refuge in European countries—Sri Lankan, Tamils. What is happening to them? They are everywhere told that they are unwelcome. In country after country, they are being sent out. They are not even given the status of refugees. It is very unfortunate. Are you doing anything about this? Can you help them? Can you at least help confer on them the status of refugee? That is also not done. Thousands of young Tamils from Sri Lanka have been arriving in Europe—50,000 of them are there. They just came in from East Germany—and most of them are in the age group of 18 to 35 years. West

Germany has the highest number—22,000. They start from Colombo. Through East Germany, they have arrived in Western Europe with no money, with no luggage but with a lot of courage. Sweden is sending the Tamils away from its borders. Switzerland, traditionally, the home for the refugees is exceptionally harsh towards Tamils. The homeless are given tokens instead of money in certain shops. They are kept out of the main stream. They are treated like *pariahs*—They are asked to leave the country.

Sir, in West Germany, Netherlands, Sweden and Belgium, they are not granted refugee status. In Netherlands, there was a Parliamentary debate on the Tamil problems. 3500 Tamils were told that they are at the end of their holiday and they should leave now. This is the position. Therefore we should help them. That being the case of the refugees in other parts of the world, do you want the same situation to obtain in this country also? You will have to stop this. This cannot go on.

[*Translation*]

SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV (Varanasi) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the way Shri Bhattam initiated the discussion on this issue, it appeared that he did not want to realise the gravity of the situation in the right perspective. He objected to the searches made of the refugees in Tamil Nadu but he himself said that arms had been recovered from them and he was speaking against it. I am of the view that it is basically a question of law and order which Tamil Nadu Government has tried to solve in its own way, which to my mind is the correct one. We are aware that the conditions in Sri Lanka are quite difficult and also how a state of confrontation developed between the people of Tamil origin and the Sinhalese. I will come to that subject later on but it is true that the situation in Sri Lanka is quite grim and about 1,50,000 people have migrated to India and are living in Tamil Nadu. We can very well imagine the burden which has fallen on the Tamil Nadu Government or Government of India, but this will have to be conceded that the foreigners who flee to India, either due to some crisis or as a result of atrocities committed on them, have some

responsibility. They should see that they do not disturb the peace and law and order of the country in which they take refuge and do not pose any challenge to the administration. We have been observing infighting among their different factions resulting in murder of one person. Keeping this in view, I think there was no other alternative before the Tamil Nadu Government but to take stern action to maintain the law and order. Action taken by it has been praised by everyone but it in no way means that anyone in this country supports the action of the Sri Lankan Government. It is true that ever since we got independence say since 1950 differences between the Sinhalese majority and the Tamil minority have been surfacing and there have been clashes between the two communities. Later on, in 1956 with the declaration of the Sinhalese as the official language there, we are aware how the Tamil speaking people were discriminated against. All this resulted in riots which after 2 years assumed serious proportions resulting in heavy loss of life and property. In addition to the language issue, Tamils' grievance regarding discrimination in the matter of jobs is also genuine. Even in areas like East and North provinces which are pre-dominantly Tamil areas, efforts were made to settle sinhalese there gradually so that with the passage of time their minority may be converted into majority. No one could have accepted such a situation. With the same end in view, the Buddhists of other provinces, who are in majority, were given a special status and were also given preference in the matter of education and jobs. From this it was felt that Tamils were being neglected in every field and were also being deprived of their rights. It was natural for the Tamils to harbour a sense of insecurity and apprehension. Sri Lankan Government should have tried to resolve the issue. But what we see is that the steps taken by the Government of that country to resolve the issue had adverse effect and the problem, instead of being solved, became aggravated. Terrible carnage took place there and the attention of the world was drawn towards them. It was universally condemned and in our country also, widespread resentment was expressed against it because these Tamils were of Indian origin. May be they had gone there hundred years ago or in certain parts even thousand years ago but their

language and culture is common with us. Therefore, it was natural that there was a widespread resentment in our country and the people pressurised the Government to take initiative in this matter. The Government of India played a prominent role in resolving the Tamil problem and the results have been very encouraging. These have made a good impact. We know that Sri Lankan Government wanted that the disturbances should be quelled with police force and by use of arms and they used the force so brutally that not only in our country but also in the entire world there was outcry against it and the people condemned it. Now a lot of progress has been made in meeting the demands of the Tamils. Tamil organisations want to establish their own State-Eelam, under Sri Lankan Government. The Sri Lankan Government was not at all ready to concede it. But ever since the Government of India started taking interest and talks were held, the results seem to be quite encouraging.

In the beginning Sri Lankan Government was not at all ready to hold talks, to come to the negotiating table because it wanted a military solution and not a political solution of the problem. But the efforts made by Government of India to solve the problem broke the deadlock and a dialogue was started. Our Prime Minister had said in the very beginning that they do not want to jeopardise the sovereignty and unity of the country and want a settlement with the above thing in mind. It was a test of our diplomacy to bring round different Tamil factions as well as Sri Lankan Government. The Government of India gave a good account of itself by taking interest in the negotiations with both the parties.

Sir, as I had said earlier, Tamils want an autonomous province of their own in Sri Lanka. Talks were held in Thimpu in June 1985 and later on in Delhi. These talks did not make much headway. Subsequently, our Minister of State Shri Chidambaram went to Sri Lanka in a situation when both the sides had almost closed the doors for talks. But after his visit and efforts, the negotiations have started again and now Sri Lankan President, Shri Jayawardene has submitted a proposal which shows that he is ready for decentralisation of power. They want to set up councils

[Shri Shyam Lal Yadav]

there and want to hold elections in the provinces on the basis of proportional representation in which the majority party will form the Government with its leader as the Chief Minister. What powers should be given to the Regional Council or the Provincial Council, that is still under dispute.

Shri Jayewardene has also talked of giving some limited law and order powers as well as land rights but he does not want to give any right about the crown land. The Central Government or the Unitary Government there wants to keep many rights about this land with itself. Similarly, they do not want to give all the rights of law and order to the Tamils. I think talks can be held on these issues also.

The differences between the two sides are only about the formation of the Government. Shri Jayewardene wants that for the purposes of elections, Northern and Eastern Provinces should be treated as separate units and that separate council should be established for each province whereas the Tamil organisations want that these should not be separated but should be treated as a single unit because the Tamils are in overwhelming majority in the Northern Province and in the Eastern Province Sinhalese as well as Muslim population is also there. That is why Shri Jayewardene wants to keep them as separate units but the main demand of the Tamils is that the Northern and the Eastern Provinces should be merged into one. This is the fundamental difference between the two sides that has emerged. I think there is sufficient possibility of a solution of the problem and the way our Government is carrying on the talks, I think the results will be encouraging.

We should keep this thing in mind that at present there are about 5 Tamil factions involved in the negotiations and they may be having some differences. Some of them may be willing to consider this proposal while others do not agree with it or rather are against it. So what is required is to discuss this proposal further to decide the devolution of power i.e. what should be the extent of regional autonomy and in what way local and regional public bodies should be constituted and with what powers? The

Tamils have apprehensions that in future they can be suppressed by the Government, their rights can be trampled and they can be discriminated against. If they are not provided with the required protection, then how can these apprehensions be allayed? Can these apprehensions be allayed? For this we shall have to see that the decisions taken, the changes made in the constitution by Sri Lankan Government or the Government orders issued in this direction are so worded that the apprehensions of Tamils are completely allayed.

This is the need of the hour. The Tamils were incarcerated in larger number and butchered by branding them as terrorists. But it is no use repeating these incidents as it would serve only to inflame their feelings but would not be helpful in finding a satisfactory solution to any problem.

Therefore, whatever happened was unfortunate and improper which we shall have to forget. We shall have to create circumstances which may be conducive for finding a solution to the present situation.

My colleague, Shri Bhattam has said that this action was taken in Tamil Nadu in view of the impending talks with Shri Jayewardene who is scheduled to visit the country. To my mind, this is a wrong assessment of the situation and he is not doing justice to the problem. This was only a question of law and order there and I think the Government of India has nothing to do with it. They have not given any such information on the basis of which he has reached this conclusion.

The hon. Minister would clarify it while replying but *prima facie* there seems to be no truth in it. The Tamil Nadu Government has also clarified this thing. They are fighting with each other; what can the Government do in this regard? What else could they have done in this regard? Therefore, he has raised this point just to make political capital out of it or to criticise the Government. He also said that a Minister should be in charge which I think is not justified. The Prime Minister formulates the foreign policy of the nation and lays down its guidelines. The Minister in charge implements that policy. Therefore, there has never been any uncertainty or

instability at any place. There has not been any lack of vision or initiative. Whatever the situation, best efforts were made to find a solution to the problem.

We should keep it in our mind that peace in our neighbouring country is necessary because if there are disturbances there, the foreign powers would fish in troubled waters. We have to be very careful in this respect lest any action by us should result in a situation which may be exploited by the foreign powers, who are inimical to us. These foreign would also like to instigate the neighbouring country against us. To my mind, Shri Jayewardene also realises that due to the initiative taken by Shri Rajiv Gandhi to solve this problem, various Tamil factions have negotiated with the Sri Lankan Government, which has yielded good results and we have also received some constructive suggestion in this regard. Therefore, this problem is being solved through negotiations. To my mind, various factions have discussed it. The leader of T.U.L.F. and other groups have accepted it but there are some militant groups whose attitude in this respect is not clear. We must persuade them that they should take advantage of the opportunity offered to them and try to solve their problem.

We do not want that what is happening in Sri Lanka should happen in our country. To my mind, whatever steps have been taken by the Government of India in this regard, clearly show that she wants a political solution of this problem. We have warned the Jayewardene Government that a military solution of the problem is not the right step. If there is unrest, it would not be possible to find a solution to the problem. We have succeeded in convincing them and it is as a result of that only that the Government of Sri Lanka has come forward to negotiate in this regard and they have submitted a number of proposals.

We must bear in mind that the Government of Sri Lanka is a unitary type of Government and it is not federal like our Government where the States have been vested with exclusive powers. It is evident from their proposal that they want to maintain their unitary character of Govern-

ment and also want to give some powers to the provinces." The matters which can be dealt with by both of them, come under concurrent list. But their proposal cannot conform to the provisions of the Indian Constitution; it may have the same spirit but in a modified form. The councils of the provinces will be vested with full powers to deal with the subjects or departments assigned to them. If this scheme is implemented on trial basis by both the sides, it is my belief that any lacuna or shortcomings experienced in the course of its implementation can be resolved through mutual discussion. I think Shri Jayewardene also feels, although he does not say it, that without solving this problem of Sri Lanka, he cannot run his Government for long. Therefore, it is also in his interest that he should find a peaceful solution and not a military solution to this problem of Tamils. He should win the confidence of the Tamils and honour their feelings and find a solution which is acceptable to all. The cooperation and the initiatives of the Government of India will go a long way in making that solution acceptable. Our present Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, Shri Natwar Singh has the experience of running this department and he will try to solve this problem according to the principles and wishes of the hon. Prime Minister. In this way the Tamil problem in Sri Lanka would be solved in an honourable way.

15.00 hrs.

In the end I would like to say there are two to three aspects of this problem. First, the whole country, be it, South, East, West or North is with the Tamils and condemns the atrocities, massacre of the Tamils and damage caused to their property. We also expect from the Government of Sri Lanka that it should not illtreat its own citizens with a vengeance as if it were fighting some aliens. She should not try to deport them; instead she should call them back and provide them a chance to live peacefully. Secondly, the problem must be solved in an amicable manner through negotiations with all the groups, whether they are militants, T.U.L.F. or any other group. Thirdly, it is evident that the Government of India and the people of

[Shri Shyam Lal Yadav]

India should feel the burden of the refugees but it should not act in the same manner as the Government of Tamil Nadu did. Therefore, I hope that everybody would participate in the talks with Shri Jayewardene which have been quite encouraging so far and would try to reach a solution to the problem. Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi will have to deal with this problem patiently. He will have to bear in mind the resentment within the country and he will also have to ensure that the integrity and national unity of the neighbouring country is not jeopardised. We derive confidence from the fact that he has successfully tackled all the problems and the violence which erupted in some of the States. I hope that very soon Shri Jayewardene is visiting this country and he would utilise the opportunity to find a solution to the problems of the Tamils.

With this, I conclude.

[English]

SHRI SURESH KURUP (Kottayam) : Respected Deputy Speaker, Sir, we have been discussing in this House again and again the atrocities that are being committed by the Sri Lankan military against the innocent Tamil people. I join the whole House in expressing our deep sympathy and regard for the oppressed Tamil brethren of Sri Lanka.

The Sri Lankan State is at war with its own people. An estimate shows that about 10,000 innocent Tamils are killed in the span of a few years. Lakhs have taken refuge in Tamil Nadu. The situation has deteriorated to such an extent that even the most ardent advocates of Jayewardene Government finds it difficult to justify atrocities committed by Sri Lankan military which has degenerated into one of the most indisciplined armed forces in the world. Next week our Prime Minister and President Jayewardene are meeting to discuss about this problem. President Jayewardene should understand that Sri Lankan economy has already been ruined and the whole Srilankan State itself can carry forward only by finding an amicable political solution to this ethnic problem. A solution can be found only in the frame

work of a united Srilanka. We believe that in the framework of a united Srilanka, with a good measure of self-administering opportunities to the Tamilians can help find a solution. A slogan of dividing Srilanka is not going to help the Tamilians. It will help only the American Imperialists interests. Already American imperialists are getting more and more involved in this ethnic crisis in Srilanka. President Jayewardene is relying heavily on the American military aid. The U. S. State Department has included Srilanka in the list of countries which qualify for aid for combating terrorism. In the name of combating terrorism U.S. imperialism is pouring in heavily to Srilanka. Srilanka U.S. Military axis has been long evident for quite some time. Report says that in this year alone eleven U.S. naval ships have visited Srilanka. Top military officers from U.S.A. are holding discussion with Srilankan leaders. American U.S. pilots are helping Srilankan air force and Srilankan Government has already given some land Voice of America. There is a threat of U.S. Military base in Srilanka. All this is posing serious threat to our internal security, as we all know. It is this aid, this imperialist aid that has given the false notion to President Jayewardene that military solution is possible or he can find out a military solution. I would like to know from the hon. Minister why is the Government of India not coming out openly against U.S. imperialists intervention in this area, in this ethnic crisis ? It is posing a serious threat to our security.

Our country is faced with the problem of refugees.

PROF. N.G. RANGA (Guntur) : What about China ?

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY (Katwa) : We are telling them to drive U.S. out.

PROF. N.G. RANGA : Let us be frank.

SHRI SURESH KURUP : You are not concerned with U. S. imperialism.

SHRI P. R. KUMARAMANGALAM (Salem) : We are concerned with all forms of imperialism. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI SURESH KURUP : Sir, our country is faced with the problem of refugees and also with the threat to our vital national interests. So finding an amicable political settlement to this crisis is of paramount importance to our country. So, while denouncing the genocide that is going on in Sri Lanka and while using every tactic and pressure upon the Sri Lankan Government for putting an end to this crime, we must use all our good offices for finding a political solution to this problem. President Jayawardene and other Sri Lankan authorities should understand that military might and State terrorism can never suppress the collective will of the people. All Tamil groups should understand that a divided Sri Lanka would serve nobody's interest. I hope the entire Tamil leadership will demonstrate that they can respond to statesmanship.

With these words, Sir, I conclude.

SHRI SHARAD DIGHE (Bombay North Central) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we are discussing a very delicate subject this afternoon. The subject has become further delicate because of the impending talks which would soon take place between our Prime Minister and President Jayawardene when he comes to Bangalore for the purpose of SAARC Conference. Therefore, as Members of Parliament we owe a duty not only to the country, but to this issue itself that we should not speak in this House in such a manner that any negotiated settlement would be damaged by our talks.

As far as this ethnic problem of Tamils is concerned, there is no other alternative but to have a negotiated settlement between the Sri Lankan Tamils and the Government itself. Unless that is done, this issue cannot be settled in this part of Asia at all.

As has been already stated just now, by one of the hon. Members that some other foreign countries are already trying to fish in the troubled waters. He is merely mentioning the reported decision of USA Department to include Sri Lanka in the list of countries which qualify for assistance in combating terrorism and that would add a new dimension. I would go on further and add that even Pakistan, China and Israel

too are involved in the sinister game of aiding the Sinhalese majority to repress the Tamils. Therefore, the issue is so delicate that we must see that for the negotiated settlement all the concerned parties come to the negotiating table. It is not only one group, namely, TULF that should negotiate, but we should succeed in bringing to the negotiating table the other militant groups also. There are several other militant groups, I would not give the list as every one of you already know. They are LTTE, ENLF, EROS, TELO, EPRLF, PLOTE etc. Unless all these militant groups along with TULF come to the negotiating table and have a negotiated settlement, as far as this issue is concerned, there will be difficulties in implementing the whole settlement. Therefore, India is trying its best and using its good offices in bringing everybody to the negotiating table so that, we will have some effective settlement which will ultimately put an end to this dispute and this problem. 10 years of war-fare has taken a heavy toll and much water has now flowed through the Jaffa Lagoon since Sri Lankan Government began a dialogue in June, 1985.

Now, another and final package deal has been proposed by Sri Lankan Government, as we read from the newspapers. In this, the provinces are to be formed with certain autonomy having separate subjects for their legislation and certain powers given as far as several matters including land dealings also are concerned. I would only urge from this august House upon the Sri Lankan Government also not to be very rigid as far as all these settlement talks are concerned but to have a spirit of give and take with an aim to put an end to this matter finally and ultimately.

Similarly, it is necessary also to have an atmosphere in Sri Lanka itself whereby these talks are not at all spoiled or damaged. We have been hearing and reading in the newspapers even in the month of October itself that some massacres had been going on and some innocent civilians were being massacred. So, this atmosphere has also to be changed and it is for the Sri Lankan Government to see that that atmosphere is kept in such a manner that negotiated settlement is easily possible.

Similarly the Sri Lankan Government should also keep away from all these foreign

[Shri Sharad Dighe]

interveners who want and desire, as I said, to fish in the troubled water so that Sri Lankan Government should directly negotiate with these militant groups and the other liberal groups by using or by making use of the best use of the good offices of the Indian Government. From this point of view, I think, if this is followed, then much progress can be made. I would also, at the same time, urge upon the different groups in Sri Lanka to have also a spirit of some what give and take and not to be very rigid in their stand, because, as I said earlier, negotiated settlement is the only way to get peace in this area and to have peace for all. Therefore, even from the point of view of powers regarding land dealings and other disputes also, they have to be solved with the spirit of give and take. They should not take the rigid and firm stand that unless these provinces are joined together, we shall not have the settlement. There can be several solutions which can be found out in order to meet the aspirations of the Sri Lankan Tamilians residing in North and East part of that country and from that point of view, all the Parties concerned should take the best advantage of the good offices which are being provided by our country, especially by our Prime Minister. I hope that with all this effort, this problem will be solved soon and that we shall have peace in this part of the world.

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN (Kishanganj) : In real life, sometimes we are faced with the drama of the absurd in diplomacy as well as in common life. Here I am in the Opposition and I rise to express my sympathy for the Government of India. The Government of India, as I see it, is finding itself on the horns of dilemma. It is indeed facing a difficult situation.

PROF. N.G. RANGA : Why Government of India alone ?

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN : It is not of our own creation and my only comment is that, to some extent, if I may say so, the Government itself is responsible for reducing the area of manoeuvrability. I know it is under pressure on both sides, from the Tamils and also from the Government of a friendly neighbouring country. It also knows its limits. The diplomatic

limits are well-known. It cannot exert much pressure on the Tamils or on the Sri Lanka Government beyond a point. And yet, it has taken upon itself a task in which, by its maladroitness performance, it is inevitably reducing the area of manoeuvre performance and of possible action. That is why I find fault with what happened in Tamilnadu a little while ago. I am not going into the merits of the situation. I am not saying that it was Centrally inspired or that it was state action. All I am saying is that this was not the time for letting happen what happened. I know that in Sri Lanka the main problem is that there is total breakdown of communication between the two ethnic communities and also between the Tamil community and the Sri Lanka Government. Their relations have passed through many phases. It has led to bitterness, distrust and suspicion and that is where the Government of India should have used its good offices in a more effective manner and tried to bring about mutual understanding and, if possible, reconciliation.

15.23 hrs.

[SHRI SOMNATH RATH *in the Chair*]

We all talk about domestic jurisdiction in international law. But here we are facing a situation in which we have to teach the law of compassion to the followers of the great Buddha, who enunciated the law of compassion, that you cannot rule by force, that you cannot win people by violence, you cannot threaten to massacre them and yet obtain their consent. It is impossible particularly in our times when so many submerged identities are surfacing all over the world even in much more homogenous societies, in much more developed countries. How can you suppress the urge of the Tamil people, to have a life of dignity, of equality, to a share in the running of their Government ? And yet this is happening. When I look at the story of Sri Lanka, I am amazed by the slow but steady retreat of the forces of liberalism. We had the 1948 Constitution which was in many ways cast in the liberal mould but then came the 1972 Constitution and that was a retrograde step. Essential principles enunciated in the 1948 Constitution were dropped. For example, under Section 29(1), Sinhala was declared to be the solenational language, mark the word 'Sole'. It has played havoc with politics also in our

own country. Buddhism was declared as the State religion against the lesson which they ought to have learnt from us, we are just next door to them, that you cannot impose in a multi-religious society a special status to a particular religion. Then came 1976 when Tulf raised the banner of protest and committed itself and the TULF committed itself—till then they were a constitutionally recognised group—to the idea of a separate Tamil State. President Jayawardene's Party in 1977 went to the electorate with a recognition of Tamil grievances. And their grievances are well-known. President Jayawardane's Party acknowledged that they exist and within the frame-work of Sri Lanka's law and Constitution a solution should be found. The manifesto spoke about the Tamil grievances in the field of education, in the field of steady colonisation by non-Tamils of the areas inhabited by the Tamils. Of the deliberate turn or deliberate change in the demographic profile of vast regions of the country. They had their grievances about the use of Tamil in Administration. They had a grievance about their place and share in public employment. All these were recognised and the people were promised a solution. Nothing has happened. They had, in 1978, a state of emergency. Here, we have a unitary State with a sole language and a State religion and that is the crux of the problem. We are not here to speak about what they have to do. But we do feel that as enlightened citizens of the 20th century, they ought to have learned an important lesson that times have gone for imposing a unitary State; time is past for imposing a sole language; times have passed for imposing a State Religion on a society which is multi-lingual, multi-ethnic and multi-religious. So, we had the beginning of disturbances. One day the fuse blows up. When you cannot contain the discontent. That is inherent in the situation and they had disturbances. Here, I do not have the intention to apportion blame. Who is responsible? Who cast the first stone? It is impossible in the perspective of history to lay down blame and to say that the Government is responsible or the Tamils are responsible. All we can say here is that the situation was fraught with dangerous consequences for the future of Sri Lanka and for the powers that be in Sri Lanka, for the people who are supposed to be enlightened.

In fact, in many ways, they were supposed to be constitutionally and intellectually the most advanced among the peoples of the Sub-Continent. They did not think about the impending storm on the horizon, about the gathering clouds on the horizon. They continued on their path, colonising the Tamil areas and using armed forces and flexing their mighty muscles. On whom? The Police in Sri Lanka is 94 per cent non-Tamil. The Army in Sri Lanka is 98 per cent non-Tamil. When you use Sri Lankan Police and Sri Lankan Army in Tamil areas, they behave as if they are operating in a foreign country; they behave as if shooting against foreign people. They behave as if they have to occupy the area. After all, it is part of their own country. But they use force. Force will beget force. You have violence on both the sides. Naturally, you cannot silence their urge for freedom and people organise themselves. This is not just to take revenge. Some of them may have a revengeful spirit also here or there. But it is primarily to protect themselves; to defend themselves in their home-land; to defend their rights as citizens, as human beings.

We have, now, several terrorist groups. My friend Shri Yadav said that there are several Tamil Groups. Yes, there are several groups; they are there. In such a situation, there is always a competition bid for a place in the love and affection of the community. The more violent your language, the more force you promise, the more you can rise in the esteem of the people, who are discontented, disenchanted. This is a natural phenomenon. I am not bothered about it. What I am certain of is: if objectively a decent solution which guarantees life, dignity, equality for the Tamil people can be found then terrorism will die a natural death. Then, terrorism cannot sustain itself. We have to apply all the intellectual abilities that we can muster on this situation; in terms of advice to the Government of Sri Lanka; in terms of the good offices which the Government of India can provide. But certain things should be absolutely clear in our minds. I do not think that there is any dissenting note in this House. A solution must be found within the frame-work of the territorial integrity of Sri Lanka. In fact that is an absolute condition about which we need

[Shri Syed Shahabuddin]

have no qualms in expressing our views before the world public opinion, before the people of India and Sri Lanka and communicating to the Government of Sri Lanka. Second, we are absolutely convinced and unanimous that there cannot be a military solution. The Tamils cannot impose their will on the non-Tamils, and the non-Tamils cannot blot out the facts of history, cannot blot out a whole race of people who have been there for thousands of years, even before the Sinhalese reached the island. Therefore, neither of these two groups can wish each other away. Violence can provide no solution. There can, therefore, be only a political solution. Thirdly today we are also concerned with another aspect. Search for a solution will take time because it calls for a high level of statesmanship, a high level of goodwill; the trust which has been destroyed has to be built; the communication has to be re-established. What happens in the meantime? Shall human rights go on being suppressed in the manner they are being done? Shall people go on being killed? Shall that go on before our eyes? There is the human Rights Commission. What have they done there? What has anybody done in regard to suppression of human rights? There is a persistent pattern of suppression of human rights. I may remind you, Mr. Chairman, about the international law on this point. If there is a persistent pattern of violation of human rights leading to killings, that amounts to a genocide. What is happening in Sri Lanka is of genocidal dimension. It is not just a simple violation of human rights. Therefore, we as human beings, we as Members of Parliament, we as citizens of the world, have got to stand up and take notice of this, and we have got to tell them: "Stop violence". There has to be a total ceasefire. Then only there can be a search for peace.

One thing is also clear. If there is to be a political solution, the outlines are there visible. There cannot be separation, partition and there cannot be a unitary State. There has to be autonomy for the Tamil-speaking area, there has to be a devolution of power, there has to be decentralisation, call it a 'delegation' or use whatever constitutional terminology you wish

to use; but there has to be real autonomy for the Tamils where they form the majority of their population to run their own affairs, to manage their own life. Therefore, there has to be a constitutional restructuring almost of a federal pattern. And the use of the forces of law and order has to be subjected to some degree of control by the local authorities. Otherwise, the people there in the areas which are to be granted autonomy shall never be free of fear. On this point, if I may say one more thing, again taking from our experience, there has to be a parity and reciprocity in the use of these two languages. I am not talking of a bi-national State or a bi-lingual State. All I am saying is that, if a substantial proportion of the people of Sri Lanka have Tamil as their mother-tongue and if Tamil is spoken by a vast majority of the people in certain specified regions of the country, then there is no escape from giving equality and equal rights and equal status to Tamil as a language in administration.

We have got Mr. Jayewardene's assurances, I believe, to the Prime Minister. The only way I can explain what happened in Tamil Nadu—maybe, I am wrong—is that, perhaps, we have been told something in private which Mr. Jayewardene has not yet said in public. May be, he has got a card up his sleeve which he has already shown to our Prime Minister, but has not yet laid it on the Table. I do hope that the time will come when he will do it. We have played the trump card of good will in our hand. We have shown that we shall not accept pressure even from the Tamils and have chastised them. Alright, we have done that. Let Mr. Jayewardene now play his strump card as a statesman. We have shown our goodwill. Let him show his statesmanship. We are concerned because we are a neighbouring country; we are concerned because hundreds and thousands of people have taken refuge in our soil. We want them to go back to their motherland in honour, dignity and equality, and for that, a suitable condition has to be created. Therefore, we have an inherent stake in the solution of the problem.

I would like to finish by making one simple suggestion. There is an old proverb which says that too many cooks spoil the

broth. We had a succession of Ministers and Ministers of state in the Foreign Office. We had a succession of officials and even extra-constitutional centres of authority to play their role in this game. We had a foreign secretary who fancied himself as the Indian Kissinger and who became known as the flying secretary. Then, some Ministers suddenly out of the blue are introduced into the situation, I don't know to what end? We have, of course, the perpetually silent Buddha at the Foreign Office. We have an assorted lot of Ministers and Ministers of State who have come and gone. Please, for the sake of consistency, for the sake of effectiveness, for the sake of objectivity for finding a real, effective and permanent solution to this problem on our border, do not change horses in mid-stream.

Therefore Sir, my humble submission is to let the foreign office play a unified and consistent role with all the diplomatic skill that they have acquired over the last 40 years. I am sure they shall be able to get something for the Tamil people of Sri Lanka so that they can live in peace and dignity; but at the same time let us make sure, let us not close our eyes to the genocide that is happening in Sri Lanka. If Sri Lanka persists in its acts of genocide, I believe, it is our duty as a civilised State to raise this matter in the Council of Nations. Let us first make a call for the ceasefire and let the parties come to the table. I think everyone of us here in this House will join in this appeal that the parties must cease fires, sit down, and negotiate a position which would find an ultimate solution.

SHRI P. JEEVARATHINAM (Arakkonam): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am very much thankful to you for giving me this opportunity of speaking a few words on the discussion on the ethnic problem of the Tamilians in Sri Lanka. In this connection, I would like to emphasise on one important point that when the talks between the Sri Lankan President, Shri Jayawardene and our hon. Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi are to be held in Bangalore during next week, anything harmful said in this august House may perhaps impede the peaceful negotiations that may be arrived at in the Bangalore talks. I would like to draw the attention of the House to the fact that any such remarks

may perhaps be construed as the greatest offence against our own brethren.

Sir, the Tamils constitute more than 25% of the total population in Sri Lanka. They are mostly engaged in the plantation work in Sri Lanka. These Tamils are the main persons to develop Sri Lankan economy. If these Tamils had not gone there and worked hard, Sri Lanka would not have developed its economy and would not have attained the present position. Therefore, I would request the Sri Lankan Government and the people of Sri Lanka to accept these Tamils who are the main cause for their economic development, in the main stream of the country's administration by giving them all the rights as those enjoyed by the Sinhalese. If the Tamils have been treated on equal footing with the Sinhalese, the present burning situation would not have arisen. Therefore, I would, with all sincerity, request the Sri Lankan Government to accept the Tamils as their own countrymen and give them equal treatment.

But the sorry state of affairs is that the Sinhalese in Sri Lanka do not like the Tamils prospering in Sri Lanka. In those days when the Tamils went to Sri Lanka for plantation work, the Sinhalese were not at all doing any work for the development of the country, but with the sweat and hard labour the Tamils had developed the Island. Now, they do not like the Tamils because they are very industrious and hard working. Therefore, I would request that they should sit together with the Tamils at the negotiated Table and should find a solution to the ethnic problem. This is what I wanted to place before this august House.

Sir, both the sides must abhor violence to put an end to this grave situation. Under the circumstances; the whole House should welcome the appointment of the Tamil Nadu Chief Minister as the Coordinator between the two parties. It is a welcome feature. The Sri Lankan Government, many times, overtly and covertly, alleged that India is harbouring and giving training to the Eelam Tamil extremists. Now, by appointing no less a person than the Chief Minister of a State to mediate between the parties, India has now pooh-poohed that allegation. I am sure the Sri Lankan Government will appreciate this position.

[Shri P. Jeevarathinam]

Recently, the Tamil Nadu Police have recovered a large quantity of arms and ammunitions from the Tamil extremists residing in Tamil Nadu. Besides the crack-down many of the Tamil Liberation Organisation leaders are being kept under close vigil of the authorities and their movements are also restricted. Sir, on 1st November 1986, there was an incident which occurred in Choolaimedu, a locality in Madras City where the Ealam Tamil Extremists fired 60 rounds at the local mob. There was some dispute between some Ealam Tamils and the general public there. I would request the Sri Lankan Government the Tamil Extremists to ponder over why this kind of situation is created in Tamil Nadu. Is it because the Indian people, particularly, the people of Tamil Nadu who have extended all help to the Sri Lankan refugees? The Tamil Nadu people have shown sympathy to them and with their large-heartedness they extended all the facilities like shelter and food to these people even at the cost of their own comfort. Now, this is the dangerous situation that has been created there.

Sir, I would like to pose a question before this august House as to how these extremists have got the automatic weapons and ammunitions. It is not known how they got these automatic weapons and ammunitions which are generally used by the army personnel. If these weapons are with them, then they may perhaps use these against the general public in Tamil Nadu, any time. Therefore, I welcome the action taken by the Tamil Nadu Government and the Central Government in recovering these arms and ammunitions from the extremists. Moreover, I would request the Centre and the State Governments to see that such a situation is not created in future. What I want to convey to the Sri Lankan Tamils is that they must repose their confidence and faith in the Indian Government, headed by the hon. Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi. I am sure that with his sagacious and intelligent approach, the hon. Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi who could solve the burning problem of Assam and Mizoram, would equally be of good help in solving the ethnic problem of Sri Lanka. Our hard-won freedom was not due to battle and bloodshed but due to non-violence preached by

the father of our Nation, Mahatma Gandhi. In this country, there is no place for the terrorists and extremists. I would therefore request the Sri Lankan Government and the Ealam Tamils to cooperate with the Government in solving this burning problem, so that in the forthcoming discussion that is to take place in Bangalore between the President Jayawardene and the hon. Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, peaceful settlement is arrived at. I am sure they will find a peaceful solution to this ethnic problem. I thank you for giving me the opportunity to speak on this subject.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN (Idukki) : Sir, the Sri Lanka issue has become a very delicate one. Our Prime Minister and the Sri Lanka President, Shri Jayawardene are going to meet in Bangalore during the SAARC meeting. We should not say anything which may complicate the issue further. We should be very careful.

Already much has been said in this House about this subject. We are not discussing this issue for the first time. We have discussed it on a number of times and a lot has been said on this subject. The need of the hour is to bring about a negotiated peaceful settlement of the issue. That settlement should be one which brings absolute peace in that region. That settlement should also allow the Tamilians to live in Sri Lanka with dignity, honour and peace. Only such a settlement can give lasting and durable peace in that area.

At the same time, it should be made very clear and our Prime Minister has already made it unequivocally clear that we do not want to dismember Sri Lanka, we do not want to disintegrate Sri Lanka, but instead we want a settlement preserving the territorial integrity of Sri Lanka, that is within the united Sri Lanka.

I am sorry to say that some of my friends who spoke from the other side wanted to support an independent homeland for Tamilians. I do not think such an attitude would be helpful to the Tamilians in Sri Lanka. What is needed is that there should be a united Sri Lanka and within that Sri Lanka, Tamilians should have autonomy. Only such a solution will be a permanent solution and in the interest of the

region, in the interest of the Tamilians and also in the interest of Sri Lanka.

Sir, it goes to the credit of the Government of India and especially our Prime Minister that both the parties have now understood the need for a political settlement. When the crisis began, the attitude on the part of both the sides, not only the Sri Lankan Government, but also the militants, was not for a negotiated settlement. Now, both the sides have come round and agree that a political settlement only will give lasting peace.

Sir, we know that in the genocide that took place in Sri Lanka, thousands and thousands of innocent Tamilians were killed. The Sri Lankan military, one of the most indisciplined in the world, have been committing atrocities on the innocent people, killing innocent people, raping women and what not. Because of these atrocities, more than one and a half lakhs of Sri Lankan Tamilians have come to our land as refugees.

A mention was made about the arrest of some militants in Tamil Nadu. Some of the hon. Members on the other side strongly criticized the arrests of some militants. It has been made very clear that it was only a law and order problem and it has nothing to do with the ethnic issue. In fact, the Government of India has nothing to do with these arrests. It being a law and order problem, the State Government has dealt with it and they have taken the responsibility also.

It is not in our interest to link the matter of arrests with the Sri Lankan ethnic problem. As I said, it is a law and order problem and it is for the Tamil Nadu Government to solve it. If the Tamilians from Sri Lanka or the Tamilians of Tamil Nadu pose a law and order problem, the State Government has to take action and I think, there is nothing wrong with it.

Sir, because of the efforts by the Government of India, and our Prime Minister particularly, some proposals for solving the ethnic issue are already under discussion. Sometime we thought that the negotiations had reached a deadlock and Mr. Jayawardene started using his army against Tamils. At that time our hon. Minister Shri Chidam-

baram went to Sri Lanka and had discussions with Jayawardene and other leaders and they could formulate certain proposals. On the basis of that further discussions were held and I understand that the Sri Lankan Government have now come forward with certain concrete proposals. It is understood that those proposals contain certain substantial points which we should consider seriously. Shri Chidambaram himself has stated (I read it in the press) that these proposals could be a good basis for talks. Sir, there is provision for creating provincial councils with Chief Ministers elected on the basis of proportional representation and power is being devolved to the provincial councils in various fields. The militants have not agreed to these proposals because what they want is a homeland for the Tamils. They want to connect the Eastern and Northern regions, both of which are Tamil majority areas. They feel that such an area is identifiable and geographically contiguous and therefore it is possible to link the two regions. Even though that has not been accepted by the Sri Lankan Government, their coming forward with a proposal for provincial councils is a welcome step and it is indeed a step forward. And I feel that it should be appreciated. It is again stated that the militants feel that when powers with regard to land are vested in the Central Government, then there is a possibility of the Sinhalese people being injected into the Tamil majority areas, in order that the Tamil majority may be converted into Tamil-minority areas in future. I think that it is quite a reasonable and genuine fear on the part of the militants.

Then, regarding police and law and order aspect also, the militants feel that there should be more powers with the provincial councils. I do not want to go into details now. But whatever it may be, one thing is very clear. The Sri Lankan Government has come forward with certain concrete proposals and the militants have agreed to consider them seriously and give their reactions on that. I think they have already given their reactions to the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu and our hon. Minister may already be having those details which he may disclose here. Whatever they may be, it is a welcome step from both the sides. Therefore, our approach should be to see that the situation is not deteriorated

[Prof. P.J. Kurien]

any further. We should try to persuade and encourage both parties to come to a settlement. We should be able to persuade Jayewardene to modify his proposals to the extent possible, within the territorial integrity of Sri Lanka, so as to meet the aspirations of the Tamil people. At the same time, we should also try to persuade and encourage the militants to unite themselves to study these proposals and to agree to them, provided they can live in honour, dignity and peace in the united Sri Lankan territory. It is for us to talk to both the sides and see that they come to a settlement. Our Government and our Prime Minister are very much on this issue and on the 15th, when Jayewardene will be coming to Bangalore to attend the SAARC meeting, our Prime Minister will be meeting Jayewardene and we all hope that a settlement which will be of benefit not only to the Tamils but also to Sri Lanka itself will emerge out of this meeting. The entire country is hoping for such a settlement.

Sir, if peaceful settlement is not reached then it is not only detrimental to the Tamils, but also, it is not in the interest of the Sri Lankan Government which has already gone bankrupt and which is being used by the imperialist powers as a tool to hatch their own machinations in this area.

Therefore, it is in the interest of the Sri Lankan Government itself, not to speak of Tamils and all countries of the region that this problem is solved once and for all in a peaceful manner by ensuring dignity, honour and peace to the Tamils there and creating a situation so that the refugees who are in this country can go back to Sri Lanka and live in peace.

Let us all hope for that. Let us all support our Prime Minister. And the entire country is with the Prime Minister in his efforts to bring about lasting peace in this region.

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU (Gobichettipalayam): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Sri Lankan problem is not new to the House here. We have been discussing this problem for years together when Madam Gandhi was here and again when our hon. Prime Minister, Rajiv Gandhi

took charge as Prime Minister. This is the fourth time that we are discussing this problem in the last two years.

Sir one hon. Member Syed Shaha-buddin was saying that so many Ministers have been changed as far as the Ministry of External Affairs is concerned. But I can tell this House that even though Ministers might have been changed, but the policies of the Government have never changed. That is the main thing which we want. The Policy of the Central Government and the State Government of Tamil Nadu have never changed. We are here in order to find out a political solution to the ethnic problem in Sri Lanka. I have to appreciate and congratulate the Central Government and the State Government of Tamil Nadu for having taken so many steps in order to find out a political solution.

Sir, we have been seeing, that lot of efforts were and being made to unite the Tamil militants. There are so many groups among the Tamil militants themselves. I can name them also. They are as follows. (1) TULF, (2) EROS, (3) EPRLF, (4) LTTE, (5) PLOT, (6) TELO and PROTEG.

First of all, even I had requested the Tamil militants to unite themselves. They must come as one hand in order to find out a solution. Then only the problem can be solved. Some of the militant groups say that they want a separate Eelam. And some of the militant groups say, they want North and the Eastern provinces must be merged. Some of the militant groups say, they don't want any settlement at all. How to settle the issue? That is why we are taking some steps in order to find out the solution. It should not be allowed to deteriorate further. I request hon. Members, who are here, not to strengthen the hands of the Sri Lankan President, Shri Jayewardene. We are here to find out a better solution for the ethnic problem there. One hon. Member, Shri Bhattam Srirama Murthy was all along accusing the Central Government and the State Government for having taken some action. He had also said that some people were put on house arrest. What does that mean? Supposing, if any action is being taken against Tamil militants, Sir, it is for the welfare of the

Tamil militants. Even among the Tamil militants, those who reside in Madras, are shooting each other, they have gone to the extent of shooting the civilians thereby, one Thirunavukarasu, who is aged about 26 years and a Post Graduate, was shot dead by the Tamil militants. Is it correct? Some of the Tamil militants have been taken under custody for offences committed under Sections, 302, 147 and 148. These militants were possessing arm. They have surrendered their arms. Is it not correct, on the part of the Tamil Nadu Government to ask the Tamil militants, who are possessing arms without any license to surrender them to the Government?

16.00 hrs.

That is the action that we have taken. It is for the welfare of the Tamil militants; we have done something for them; it is not as if we want to strengthen the hands of Jayewardene. Even Mr. Athulathmudali has said that there is a sanctuary in Tamilnadu which is not correct at all. We are not running any camp, training camp; here we are not in that position.

Actually, our hon. Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, has made so many attempts to settle this issue. Every day he is devoting time in order to settle this issue. I know it fully well. Our hon. Chief Minister is coming here, staying 3-4 days together just to find out a solution for this. So, we should not say that just because some action has been taken against Tamil militants, just because some militants have been arrested, that we are strengthening the hands of Jayewardene. May I ask one question from Mr. Bhattam Srirama Murthy? He may be knowing very well. This problem started in 1972 when Karunanidhi was the then Chief Minister; he was the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu. Karunanidhi was asked by the press people recently with regard to the arrests made by the Tamilnadu Police about the militants. He said, "No comments". What does it mean? Does it not show that the action taken against Tamil militants is correct? Does it not mean that the so-called savior of Tamils is keeping quiet? He knows fully well that there is no unity among the Tamil militants; that is why he is keeping quite. But here is a government which

wants to settle this issue. Our hon. Prime Minister has come forward to settle this issue. I request the hon. External Affairs Minister, Shri Natwar Singh and Shri P. Chidambaram to solve some of the problems, irritating problems. About 4,500 persons are there for the last more than two years. They have been detained unlawfully, illegally in the prisons of Ceylon. Why have they been detained? There is a Prevention of Terrorism Act in Ceylon. Under that Act, so many people have been detained; but even under the Act, one cannot detain people for more than 18 months, but they have been detained for more than two years. For what purpose? They have been detained unlawfully and illegally without having any trial and they have not been produced before any court of law for any offence. There is an Advisory Committee. That Committee advised the government to release about 300 prisoners, those who had been detained for more than two years. But Jayewardene is not taking any action over that Committee's Report nor does he release prisoners. The Attorney-General is there in Sri Lanka, He also advised the government to release about 500 prisoners, those who had been detained unlawfully without having committed any offence at all; they were not released. Army camps and the police station people have locked up so many persons. No charges have been levelled against them; no offence has been proved against them. So, I request the hon. Ministers to come to the rescue of the prisoners, who have been detained unlawfully and illegally; they have to be released once for all.

There should a ceasefire. Ceasefire violation is taking place often. Jayewardene is playing double role. On the one hand, he shows himself as if he is a Buddha; on the other hand, he shows himself as if he is another Zia. We must come to a conclusion. There is a SAARC meeting which is taking place on 15th of this month at Bangalore; and as a precautionary measures, some of the militants might have been taken into custody only for the purpose of maintaining law and order over there. In Tamilnadu, these steps have been taken. It is for the welfare of the militants; it is for the welfare of the Tamils in Sri Lanka.

16.05 hrs.

[SHRI N. VENKATA RATNAM
in the Chair]

[Translation]

SHRI NARESH CHANDRA CHATURVEDI (Kanpur) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the issue which is being discussed in the House is very sensitive and crucial for our country. However, I feel that Shri Bhattam Srirama Murty, who has raised the issue has not placed it in the right perspective. He has presented his point as if the relation between Shri Rajiv Gandhi and the Sri Lanka Government was not the relation between two countries but between two colonies. He has forgotten that Sri Lanka is our neighbouring country. India is a great country and in spite of its size, its Government as also the Prime Minister want, as a matter of policy, that every nation in this world, howsoever small it may be, must exist with full dignity and honour and be free to pursue its own policies and to defend itself. Wherever the issue of human rights has been raised, India has always come forward to support it. During the struggle between the Tamils and the Sinhalese in Sri Lanka, India's position was made clear from the very outset. But so far as the treatment of the Tamils by Sri Lankan Government is concerned, there are two facets to it. On the one hand, the Sri Lankan Government is strongly criticised for its treatment of the Tamils and on the other hand, there are certain Tamil factions which indulge in terrorism and other objectionable activities and must be equally condemned. Today, out of them, nearly 1,50,000 people are living as refugees in our small State of Tamil Nadu. If they create law and order problems over there, and if the Government of Tamil Nadu takes the needed measures against them, then we should not censure but praise the Government for it because their action was desirable and thereby they upheld the national honour. I do not think it is proper to censure or criticise the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu for it, because he heads the Government of an Indian State. If certain terrorist groups indulge in any undesirable or anti-national activities, the State Government will have to take such steps which though may not be liked by

some people, but are essential for the smooth running of the administration. If we start condemning the steps taken on the basis that some people are close to us and others are not, then it would not yield any results. A Government cannot function properly if it is swayed by emotions, it must take hard facts into account. India and Sri Lanka have not built up a good relationship merely because of the Tamil people residing there; if we feel emotionally attached to the Tamils, then we should feel equally close to the Sinhalese as we share the same religion, culture, philosophy heritage, historical background and this relationship is thousands of years old. We are entitled to intervene in the internal matters of other countries only to the extent it is necessary for the protection of human rights. Our friend, Shri Syed Shahabuddin has mentioned several such points in the form of sugar coated pills in his speech which can lead to disintegration. Is there any country in this world where minority communities do not exist; but if the minorities begin to assert themselves by ignoring the majority community then which country can remain integrated? If we accept this principle for country with a population of 750 million and propagate the same for Sri Lanka, then it would lead to anarchy. In India itself at least 150 new nations will come into existence. Leave aside India, there is no other country in the world, be it USSR, USA, China, Britain or France, where minority communities do not exist and where multiple linguistic groups, religions, regions, races and castes do not exist. If we accept all that he has said then nowhere in the world will there be unity any more, and the concept of nationalism will cease to hold any meaning. Sri Lanka is a small country. If the Tamils want a separate State comprising Jaffna and other 4-5 districts where they are in majority, then we cannot support it. But everyone would agree to the suggestion that the Tamils in Sri Lanka should be treated at par with the Sinhalese and should enjoy equal rights—whether economic, social or administrative—equal status in the development of Sri Lanka and should receive equal facilities. In this connection, whatever assistance could be rendered by the Indian Government, is being regularly given by our

hon. Prime Minister. On the one hand, we expect our Prime Minister to intervene and he did so, and he not only sent his emissaries to Sri Lanka but also, he had talks with President Jayewardene, and whenever any argument did not appeal to him, he stepped aside. Now, if our Prime Minister discusses some issue with President Jayewardene wherein some proposals are advanced, and if after discussion on these proposals they are rejected by TULF and some other terrorist organisations, then it becomes clear that there are extremist elements in the organisation, because of whom those proposals were rejected. I want to ask you as to how can we arrive at an agreement with such an organisation. If you want the Indian Prime Minister to mediate and if Shri Jayewardene accepts certain suggestions of our Prime Minister as a gesture of goodwill, then should not the extremist and terrorist elements of the Tamils be compelled to accept that agreement? If the Tamil extremists do not heed the advice of our Prime Minister, how can they expect President Jayewardene to listen to him. I want to make it clear to those friends who advocate the cause of Tamil extremists of Sri Lanka that the efforts of the Indian Prime Minister will prove to be effective only when the Tamils accept the proposals to which the Government of Sri Lanka is persuaded to agree to. Or they may authorise the Prime Minister that whatever agreement is reached by him it will not be opposed by any group. If this is done, then we can understand. How can two contrary things work? Today you say one thing, tomorrow you reject it; similarly, if today one group advances a proposal and the other group rejects it, then under such circumstances, how can we come to an understanding? No country can really afford to spoil its relationship with its neighbour. In my opinion no problem can be solved if India or any other country for that matter, become a party to a dispute with its neighbours. Then any attempt to link the problem with SAARC will be prejudicial to national interest. It is very surprising that whenever one of our friends from the opposition speaks, he does not miss any opportunity of criticising the Prime Minister. In fact, they are always in search of an occasion to attack the Prime Minister and at times

their accusations do not even make any sense. How can the Tamil problem be linked with SAARC. If the Tamil Nadu Government takes certain steps against the Tamil refugees, because they have created law and order problems, how can the SAARC be linked with it? They are the citizens of Sri Lanka and if steps are taken against them for creating law and order problems there, it is surprising how it can be discussed in our Parliament. They are not Indian citizens, and we can discuss about them, from the point of view of human rights, anywhere in the world, but if we discuss their rights in this House then it will not be justified. After all, our Prime Minister is not attending a SAARC meeting for the first time, nor is he going to have talks with President Jayewardene for the first time; he has been trying to find a solution to this problems for years. He not only involved many of the Sri Lankan leaders in it, but also leaders of other nations, which are connected with them in some way, and he had several rounds of talks with them and made an honest effort to persuade the Sri Lankan Government to the extent possible. But now sometime in certain quarters suggestions are made that India should send its troops to Sri Lanka...would it be proper for India to take such a step or should the Prime Minister have mentioned it? It is not proper to give such suggestion.

Last time, while speaking on SAARC, I had told them to make judicious comments in their speeches. We are always saying that Sri Lanka is an independent country and a sovereign state. Under such circumstances, how can one country attack another and how can it be proper when it is contrary to our foreign policy fundamentally? But these people seem to forget that.

I do not consider it an ethnic problem although the newspapers are portraying it as such, but I do not accept it. The Tamil problem is purely a Sri Lankan national problem. Many people here have tried to poison the atmosphere by calling it an ethnic problem. Our friend Shri Syed Shahabuddin is also of the same opinion. I do not agree with him. It is comments of such nature which resulted in the partition of India and Pakistan. We have

[Shri Naresh Chandra Chaturvedi]

already experienced how a venomous atmosphere can be created in the name of minority. Pakistan and India were divided on this basis only. In those days also, it was said that the country must be partitioned to protect the minority community. The result was the partition of the country and now the situation is that there is neither peace in Pakistan nor in India. Today, the struggle is taking new turns.

The Soviet Union is one nation, in spite of the fact that there are 23 languages and 23 provinces in it and yet no tension is visible there unlike our country. Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would, therefore, submit to the House, through you, that such comments and the protection which is being given to the anti-national elements cannot be tolerated.

Our Indian Government follows a definite policy. I remember very well, that once late Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru while speaking on the foreign policy of the country had stated—wherever any section of humanity is subjected to atrocities or injustice, this country will come forward and intervene but we shall never do anything which may affect the unity, integrity and goodwill of any nation and we shall never be aggressors. Hon. Shri Rajiv Gandhi is still following the same policy. And for this reason he has the support of the whole country and its people.

With these words, while supporting him, I oppose the views expressed by Shri Bhattam Srirama Murty.

[English]

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY (Midnapore) : Sir, actually the situation obtaining in Sri Lanka is a matter of grave concern for the entire nation. The matter concerns not only those Tamil militants or that Tamil population which is facing annihilation in Sri Lanka, but actually it is a matter of concern for the entire nation.

Today in Sri Lanka we find several forces operating. It is not only the government of Jayewardene which is having genocide on our Tamilian brothers whosoever they may be, they may be from

India or they may be Tamilians from Sri Lanka. Actually, it is a war going on against the people whose language is Tamil. It is a war, declared or undeclared. Even the Air Force is being used to bombard the villages. So, it is a matter of concern. But I would like to draw the attention of the entire House and also of the Government as to what are the forces that are operating in Sri Lanka. Is it not a fact that from Israel to Pakistan, from USA to UK, all these forces are converging in Sri Lanka and the game is not only to annihilate the Tamils but also to destabilise my country, India, to destabilise its unity and integrity? Who does not know that the entire game of U.S. imperialism is to turn Indian Ocean into a zone of war, not into a zone of peace? This game of attack on the Tamil people in Sri Lanka is a part of that entire game. This is a part of the global game of U.S. imperialism and this could not be forgotten by the Government and this should be taken note of by the Government.

Our Communist Party in Sri Lanka has given a statement. It has pointed out on many occasions—

“The USA is trying to destabilise India counting on internal subversive separatist elements on a spread of religious, communal discord and on fanning hostility for New Delhi in neighbouring State. Sri Lanka is not by-passing by this geopolitical game led by the U.S. terrorists who want to turn the Indian ocean into a sphere of U.S. vital interests.”

This thing cannot be forgotten. This is the main thing. That cannot be forgotten by our leaders and by our country. What we say, what is needed is a peaceful solution. Only by declaration that we want peaceful solution, we are not going to get it. Despite all our attempts we have secured almost nothing. Our Government knows this just as the U.K. and U.S.A. in the matter of South Africa. Despite many attempts the game of U.S. is continuing in the Middle East. What we want is—that the Government of India whose leader is Shri Rajiv Gandhi move more seriously to gather world opinion in favour of our proposals that only peaceful solution around the table

is the only way out of the present crisis in Sri Lanka. Neither our party nor the Government wants, I do not think anybody here wants Cyprus like situation in Sri Lanka. No Cypersisation of Sri Lanka is, allowed. That is very clear. It has been made clear by all parties and all groups in Parliament.

A section of Tamil militants want a separate State in Sri Lanka. It should be made very clear that we cannot support this demand. We can never be a party to it.

In our country a section of sikh militants are fighting for a homeland for sikhs. We oppose it in principle. In this form we say it shall never come. Gorkha land will never come. Punjab shall remain part of India.

There are important demands of the people of Tamil origin in Sri Lanka. Whether be they from India or Ceylon we want to make it clear that this Government and Parliament shall never be a party to divide Sri Lanka to bring it like a condition in Cyprus. It is a fact that a solution of militants have given a call for homeland, a separate State. We do not support that. But it should be understood that such demands have come after many years of struggle and frustration. Many of the genuine demands have been stressed. They are treated as a second class citizens in Sri Lanka. Tamil people have done a lot for bringing the economy of Ceylone up, for the development of Ceylone. To-day they feel that they are second class citizens. Their culture is neglected. They are removed from service. They are put in jails. Out of frustration demand for separate homeland are coming though we do not support these. But it should be clearly understood that we are not with them. But then, this effects us directly. It not only effects Tamil population and Ceylone but it effects India also. That should be taken not of. Thousands and thousands of refugees have come to India. They have taken shelter. It is a matter of regret that Government of India or the Government of Tamilnadu have resently arrested them, disarmed them. I do not know what for? But there are thousands and thousands of refugees staying on the Indian soil. It is a problem for our

economy. It is also a problem for the economy of Sri Lanka. Sri Lanka's economy is not a very sound economy, Sri Lanka is a small country. To combat the so-called terrorism in Sri Lanka, more money is spent. The Sri Lankan Government spends nearly Rs. 2 crores every day to combat the so-called terrorism. Naturally, Sri Lanka's economy is going to dogs and Sri Lanka is depending more and more on imperialist countries. The more these things continue, the more they will be depending on American economy or British economy or foreign economy. That should be taken note of. In one way we also suffer. Not only our country is keeping several thousand refugees, I do not know how many lakhs are there I think two lakhs and more of people will be staying in India. So, the Indian economy suffers. Coastal fishermen on our side are Indians. They cannot go to the sea for fishing. No sooner they go than the Sri Lankan gunboats fire at them. I fail to understand that if these Sri Lankan gunboats can attack our fishermen on the Indian waters, why not we people take steps to protect our Indian fishermen from being attacked by Sri Lankan Navy? Why can't we make use of our forces to combat them? At least this thing can be done. I am not a man who will say, 'Come on, march and advance to Sri Lanka'. That is out of question. But how is it that our Indian fishermen are not allowed to fish in Indian water and we are unable to give protection to them? I think the Government will wake up to this situation and do the needful.

Sir, there are a large number of Indian Tamils in Sri Lanka. What about them? Some people say that it is an internal problem of Sri Lanka. Of course, it is an internal problem of Sri Lanka. But then I want to know one thing. There are many Indians who are there working as clerks, doctors, businessmen and so on. Do you know how they are being treated? So, sir, their interest should be safeguarded. I again believe that the only solution lies in talks, talks and talks. Both sides must come to a compromise. Definitely there are some elements in Sri Lanka, there are parties in Sri Lanka, who do not want any compromise. There is terrific Sinhalese chauvinism in Sri Lanka today. That Sinhalese national chauvinism is against the interests of not only the Tamils, but of Sri Lanka itself.

[Shri Narayan Choubey]

This must be very clear. We do not support their demand for an independent homeland. I request the Government of India to play their role as they have been playing their role on earlier occasions. I hope Mr. Jayawardene will come to his senses. I hope Mr. Jayawardene would not be influenced only by their nationalistic and chauvinistic tendencies and look up to the situation that is actually obtaining there. Whether they like or dislike, there are Tamils there. They are civilized people, they are educated people, they are good workers, good businessmen and efficient craftsmen. Many people say that they work harder than others for the development of Sri Lanka itself. In such a situation if the Government of Sri Lanka thinks that they can annihilate the forces of Tamil population and they will be coming to a solution only when the Tamil people there are battered thoroughly, they are thoroughly wrong. This thing should be made clear to Mr. Jayawardene that he cannot kill the Tamil people and Tamil militants in the name of this and that. At the same time, those Tamil boys asking for a homeland, it should be made clear to those Tamil militants that it is not the intention of the Government to support their cause for a separate homeland.

With these things, I say that the Government of India comes forward and takes appropriate steps so that situation in Sri Lanka is made normal. It is to our interest. By the continuance of war in Sri Lanka, Israel, Pakistan, U.S., U.K. gain and we lose.

With all these things, I again enjoin upon the Government to see that we can quickly come to a solution on Sri Lanka. With these things, I say that the Tamils interests shall be kept in mind and ultimately the Sri Lanka problems should be solved.

SHRI P. R. KUMARAMANGALAM (Salem) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the ethnic problem of Sri Lanka is a matter which, I understand, this House has been discussing not only during this Lok Sabha but also earlier many a time. The issue is not a new one and it is a very long pending issue. It cannot really be stated to be an internal problem of Sri Lanka.

The very fact that thousands of Tamils who are citizens of Sri Lanka—may be Tamils by ethnic origin, but for thousands of years have been living in Sri Lanka—who are people, who call themselves citizens of Sri Lanka have been killed not because they indulged in violence. They have been killed because it was their misfortune to have been born to Tamil parents, who are citizens of Sri Lanka and spoke the Tamil language. That was their misfortune and therefore, they were killed. In fact, when my friend, Syed Shahabuddin was speaking, he did really point out the fact that the Constitution in Sri Lanka from a mildly liberal Constitution moved on to becoming a semi-dictatorial Constitution, with the unitary State, a State religion and a State language. It was there where the real heart-burning started. The issue is not one which was unknown even during 1948. But at that stage, the people of Tamil origins in Sri Lanka were given promises by the various statesmen who led the freedom struggle that they would be given a place in Sri Lanka with dignity, with respect. Unfortunately, that promise was not kept up. Later the famous agreement known as the Bandaranaike agreement took place. It is very relevant, Mr. Chairman, at this stage to point out that this agreement has been given a go-by. It was given a go-by because of the famous march which was called the Kandy march and the person who led that march is now the President of Sri Lanka, Mr. Jayewardene. He led that march. Behind him were thousands and lakhs of Buddhist clergymen who under the banner of religious fanaticism opposed a very reasonable settlement which would have kept the dignity of Sri Lanka, the unity of Sri Lanka the independence of Sri Lanka and given Tamils the homeland to live with dignity. But that agreement was given a go-by.

One would have understood if the Government of Sri Lanka had given this proposal which has been placed today, before the Tamils two years ago. In this very House, almost soon after coming to this House. Mr. Chairman, Sir, I remember this issue came up. I spoke on the floor of this House. I recollect what I have said. There I have said very categorically that President Jayewardene must realise and understand

that if he does not come for a political settlement and thinks that a military settlement is an answer, the Tamil people of Sri Lanka will not tolerate it. They will fight. Military solution in no solution. Unfortunately, I would say that Jayewardene Government in Sri Lanka does not speak in one unified voice. We notice that while Shri Jayewardene talks in a placating tone, his Minister for Internal Security in his own Government, speaks in rabid, violent tones. He threatens and intimidates and goes violent and terrorises. Are these young boys who have been forced to leave college and school, whose mothers have been raped and whose sisters have been killed, terrorists or are those who were military uniform and massacre thousands of Tamils? Who are the terrorists? Is it not the concept of State terrorism? One blames these young boys who come out of their homeland out of fear, driven away by an army and by a State which hates them for their birth, not for their ideology. This is the situation. It is not a matter which can be looked at as an internal matter of Sri Lanka. Genocide has taken place, human rights questions have arisen, the matter is grave. Today one can say categorically that even though the President of Sri Lanka goes on record more than once to say that no Tamilian will be killed, and specifically he says this many a time. But his own forces under his control daily kill thousands of innocent Tamils, from helicopters, and strafing of villages takes place. Thousands of people die in their huts. They have no connection with the militants, no connection with any form of violence. All they want is to live peacefully. While this goes on one hand, talks take place on the other. The bread is offered in small crumbs, little by little. Even slices are not served to the negotiating table. In the first stage, an offer made. It was rejected outright. I understand that the present proposals have some sort of meaningful ability to start a dialogue. But we are all aware that even a moderate organisation like the Tulf, one cannot call the TULF militant under any circumstance, they are well into the range of conservative arena of politics, even that moderate organisation has rejected the proposals placed. What had the militants done? They have also rejected it. Yes, there

are a few forces which are talking of a separate State of Eelam but in reality we are all aware that the Tamil people of Sri Lanka are not thinking of Eelam as the only alternative. Their voice has been unified in saying that all they want is the right to live in dignity, in an area within Sri Lanka within the unitary set up, with dignity. That is all that they ask. A small homeland is what they seek. All of us who belong to various States in the Union of India, don't we also ask for a homeland of ours? That is all that they have done. They are not being given even that. They have been told "No, you consist of Tamils and the Muslim Tamils." This is the new language. They segregate the Tamils in Sri Lanka in the name of religion and they divide them; divide their hopes and aspirations. This shows their calibre. Thousands of graduates, millions of talented have youngsters been sacrificed.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, they do not just deserve sympathy. They deserve the support of this House. Their demands must be met. The situation is critical all around India. The imperialistic forces, it is a fact, have planned to encircle India—whether you talk of Diego Garcia, whether you talk of Pakistan. And now they talk of a base in Sri Lanka. But let me say this. If Mr. Jayewardene thinks that with the support of the imperialistic forces, he can find a military solution to this problem, he is making fool of himself. He is under an illusion. Not only will he no longer remain President, not only will these highly revisionist, fanatic communal elements take charge of his State directly, but Lanka also will face a turmoil which would it never have dreamt of.

The solution is, in fact, a negotiated solution within, of course, the unitary structure, within of course, the Sri Lankan Constitution. We are not claiming to advise Sri Lanka to change its political structure. It is not so. We are saying let them change it to the extent they find convenient. But all we say is: give this large ethnic population an honourable home-land, the right to rule within their limits, within devolution of powers. We do not ask for a sovereign State. We do not demand that. No one in this House has murmured on

[Shri P. R. Kumaramangalam]

that. But there is a small problem that has arisen recently. The problem is not new. For the last, two or three years we have seen that the *inter se* quarrels among the young militant/groups have caused many a law and order situation in our own land. But unfortunately, if I may go on record to say, there are certain regional forces which do not want unity of these forces; they do not want young militants come and unite. They are interested in keeping them divided because they think the Sri Lankan issue—the regional forces in Tamil Nadu think—is an issue within can be encashed upon for purposes of election. That is why, in this House, I appeal to all the political parties to help in uniting these boys so that these young militants could give up their *inter se* quarrels and live in peace and think of their home land, their problem of achieving a solution there. But, unfortunately, the instance of the first November is not the first incidents. There have been incidents after incidents. I am constrained to say that I have a criticism. The action that has been taken now, need not have been taken. If really right at the outset when the first *inter se* quarrel took place between these groups, stern action was taken to resolve the problem, if it was made clear to the young militants that violation of law and order would not be tolerated, it would have been much better. But, however, I would say “better late than never.” I only want to say on the floor of this House that the young militants must understand that the people of Tamil Nadu, the people of this country, sympathise with their cause. We support them. We wish them the best. We hope that they will go back to their land with dignity. But if they create law and order situation and disturb the peace and tranquility of our nation, it is impossible for any Government to keep quiet—especially a State Government like Tamil Nadu.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, may I take this opportunity to appeal to not only the young militants, to not only all the political parties and regional forces, but also to the Government of Tamil Nadu that what is to be impressed upon is an early solution to this problem. I understand quite well that the Government of Tamil Nadu has been

involved in finding a solution; in the negotiations their good offices have been of use. But in the situation of today, it is not sufficient to just push along. Critical situations have arisen not only in Sri Lanka but also in our country. We know, the regional forces will try to exploit the present situation. It is time that Mr. Jayewardene is made to understand that India can no longer just be a mediator, can no longer be just a country watching and hoping. We will have to take active interest to solve this problem. ‘Active interest’ does not mean sending our military. India has today a situation in the world, in the international politics, where it has the diplomatic ability, force and capability to ensure that, to such a serious international problem, a solution is found. Let us not forget—even though my friend, Mr. Narayan Choubey, ridiculed our South African effort—that the United States of America, one of the world forces, has followed our line and they have imposed limited sanctions, Let us not forget that...

AN HON. MEMBER : They were forced to.

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM : Yes, they were forced to. That is even a bigger victory that the people of that country did. Let us not forget that : we were not approaching the Administration, we were approaching the people. And the same could be done here. May I take this opportunity to request the Government, the External Affairs Minister, Shri Natwar Singh, who has the diplomatic experience and abilities, that it is time, that just like in the case of Bangladesh we went round the world to develop opinion, we should go to the world and tell the political powers that are there in the world and the people of the world that today the problem in Sri Lanka is no longer an internal problem of Sri Lanka, it is a problem that has to be solved and that must be solved by a negotiated settlement. Let all the forces who are sneakily giving assistance to the Sri Lankan Government in its bid of terrorism against the Tamils withdraw their support. The solution will be found. It is that tactic, the underhand support, that is really causing the problem to be alive. It is the hope that Mr. Jayewardene has got that the imperialist forces will

ultimately back him. Let that hope be withdrawn. Let Mr. Jayewardene be told by the imperialist forces : "No, our help will not be available". Let that telling come. The support of the people of those countries is very clear. They are for peace of mankind.

May I just say that today a situation has arisen where the Buddhist clergy dominance in the polity of Sri Lanka is increasing day by day ? It is not a matter of joke to see these regional, fanatic, and religious forces raising their ugly head. We have also had a problem at home, but we are seeing another problem which is religious in a completely different nature. There, the religion does not speak of war, the religion speaks of compassion and the type of compassion that is shown from the barrel of gun by the Sri Lankan army, and striking from helicopters, is a shame. It is time that a solution is found. May I take this opportunity to appeal to my beloved leader, the Prime Minister, that it is time that he put his foot down and impressed upon Mr. Jayewardene that India will no longer remain just a mediator, India can be a very powerful diplomatic force. We can go around the world and develop world opinion, just like we have done in the case of South Africa, on Sri Lanka also if they continue with their ceaseless violence against Tamils. An echo is there in this House for ceasefire. No talks can be genuine, no negotiations can come from the heart, no hand would be extended for a settlement if there is really no ceasefire. Until the forces in Sri Lanka belonging to the Sri Lankan Government do not silence their guns, no real settlement is possible. That is the truth of the situation.

It is immediate and necessary that Sri Lanka directs its forces, if necessary at the threat of penal punishment, court martials, not to fire upon a single Tamil under any circumstances. That is the only way peace can be brought to that island, the only way a political solution can be found there. Unless there is peaceful atmosphere, there can be no political solution possible.

May I end by just saying that I am reasonably confident that my leader would be able to find a solution ? But, however, he requires the genuine help and assistance

of the State Government. I think it is time for me to appeal to the State Government that mere cat and mouse game will not help, genuine assistance is required. (Interruptions) They have to come forward and participate in the efforts. It is no use their thinking that their political leverage by encouraging any single group of political young militants would support the cause. They should support in the search for a solution.

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOO-WALIA (Sangrur) : Mr. Chairman Sir, the House has just heard just valuable suggestions of my worthy friends Chaubeji and Kumaramngalam Saheb.

Sir, this country is faced with hard realities regarding the occurrences in the neighbouring country. There, only 24% people of the total population are Tamilians—both Hindus and Muslims. It is also a hard reality that even the Sinhalese came afterwards and these Tamilians—both Hindus and Muslims—were the real inhabitants of that island.

Now the situation is that the share of the Tamilians in the army is 0.5% in public sector it is 1%; in employment it is 3% and investment in the five year plans over the predominantly Tamil areas is only 5%. So, there is gross economic discrimination against the Tamilians in that country.

Unlike India, Sri Lanka has no federal system. The whole of Sri Lanka is one country run by the Central Government, denying all the authority, power and right to the regional aspirations. Adding to it, there is a genocide of Tamilians. We are facing a situation in which when we talk of the ethnic problem of Tamilians in Sri Lanka, we talk of state terrorism and state hatred towards Tamilians in that country, our neighbouring island. So, Sir, I feel when genocide is going on and the Sri Lankan military is indiscriminately killing not only the militants but also moderates and innocent people we should take certain effective steps. I do not say we should intervene but according to U.N. Resolution of 1948 which gives the right to the people to intervene when genocide is going on we should take effective steps. The situation

[Shri Balwant Singh Ramoowalia]

is becoming very very serious. On the one hand genocide is going on and on the other hand certain militant persons have acted on the land of India. In Tamil Nadu one person was killed and certain persons were injured. Without going into the details as to what was done and what should be done I will through this House and through you, Sir, appeal to those friends who are fighting for their rights in that country and who are facing State terrorism and State hatred in Sri Lanka not to resort to any such action which is not in accordance with the policies and attitudes of the Government of India or people of this country. We completely believe in non-violence and peaceful means to achieve our goals. I know that they are locked in a serious situation in that country but I will appeal to those friends not to use our land to settle their score in their own way. I also will urge upon the State Government and the Central Government to handle the situation very cautiously and in a manner that it should not be counter-productive. I also appeal to the Government and Shri Natwar Singh ji who will be going to Bangalore to attend the SAARC meeting.

Sir, we are worried and concerned by two ways. First we are concerned that the Tamilians are being killed and secondly we are further concerned that China, USA, Israel, South Africa, Pakistan and U.K. are accumulating arms and putting their feet and strengthening their interests and institutions in Sri Lanka. So, Sir, I will humbly request the Government of India to take it up seriously with Shri Jayawardene during his visit to attend the SAARC meeting at Bangalore. We should tell Mr. Jayawardene in clear words that the reason of our not interfering is not because we are paralysed but because we have decided not to do so. We have the capacity. We have been the champions and we are the champions of keeping up the rights and aspirations of the people. We have fought for human rights. From the angle of fighting for human rights and supporting the people who are facing genocide, our country should keep up its old traditions and come to the help of the people of Tamil origin who are facing a lot of

hardships. I do not say that you should immediately intervene or send military, but we have many more options to support those people.

17.00 hrs.

With these few words, I conclude.

[Translation]

DR. G.S. RAJHANS (Jhanjharpur) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, many views have been expressed about the Tamil problem in Sri Lanka and I do not want to repeat them. I want to draw your attention only towards two or three important issues. We wanted to discuss the Sri Lanka problem during the last session also but it could not be done because our negotiations with the Government of Sri Lanka were at a very crucial stage. Even now this problem is passing through a critical period. This problem has two facets. The first is whether the Government of Tamil Nadu should have harassed the Tamil militants and the second is when will the atrocities being perpetrated against Tamils in Sri Lanka be stopped. I do not want to go into the question whether the action taken by the Government of Tamil Nadu had the concurrence of the Central Government but in my opinion the action was right. The reason being that the situation had become intolerable. There was infighting among the Tamil militants and killings were taking place. I am saying all this on the basis of my first hand information. The Tamil militant leader who is directing this movement from outside, is one of my friends and now-a-days he is fasting at Rajghat. I do not think it proper to name him here. He broke down when he told me that some such elements had infiltrated into the movement who wanted to scuttle it and that they were killing each other. One person was killed and many injured in the clash that took place between them in Madras on 1st November. Then what is wrong if some persons were disarmed and some were arrested in this situation. One more facet of this problem is that earlier Sri Lanka used to blame us for running training camps for these militants in India but now the whole world knows the truth that there are no such camps in India. Here all the things have been handled in a

right way. Had there been any training camp in India, in that event we would not have arrested them. The whole world has welcomed our stand. There is another aspect of this problem. Pakistan had long been complaining of Indian help to Miss Benazir Bhutto but now the whole world knows that there is nothing like that. The press of this country has approved the disarming of the Tamil militants but this step does not lessen the gravity of the problem. However, we cannot overlook the atrocities being inflicted on the Tamils.

Amnesty International which is an impartial institution has said in no uncertain terms that what is happening in Sri Lanka is genocide and is no way less than what Hitler had done. The tale of the atrocities being perpetrated there has been repeated many a time here. The houses of the innocent people are destroyed by dropping bombs and innocent Tamils are made to stand in a line and then shot dead. This has not happened in any civilised society and nor will it ever happen. How the whole world is a mute spectator to this atrocity? Is it not our moral duty to raise our voice against these atrocities?

17.06 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

Sir, I want to point out a very interesting thing. During the last SAARC conference, Shri Jayawardene had made a meaningful remark which the people have forgotten. He had said that the Sinhalese of Sri Lanka had migrated from Bihar and Bengal. He wanted to drive home the point that the Tamils there are from Tamil Nadu. So he wanted to single out some provinces. It is an irony that the Sinhalese who came from Bihar are perpetrating atrocities there. All this should not happen there. The Sinhalese there should be prevented from perpetrating atrocities.

Now Shri Jayawardene will attend the ensuing SAARC conference and our hopes are hinged on the talks between the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi and Shri Jayawardene. The issue is somewhat getting resolved and the most important

thing is that the militants have agreed to take part in negotiations. The statement about Sri Lanka problem made by the Hon. Prime Minister in Australia was quite pertinent. We shall have to look into the practical aspect of this problem. The militants have made a demand that as the Tamils are in majority in the north and the east, this area may be granted independence. We do not support any such demand for independence but at the same time we do not approve of the killing of innocent persons. The newspapers as well as people say that the north and the east are not contiguous area as there is a Sinhalese populated area between the two provinces. The experts on this issue know it very well. What I want to say is that there should be devolution of power. They have to remain within Sri Lanka and they should be granted autonomy so that they are free to choose their own course of action. In the present times no race can be suppressed by the use of force. There cannot be a military solution of the Sri Lanka problem. I have studied the Sri Lanka problem from the very start. They are blowing hot and cold in the same breath. Sometimes Shri Jayawardene declares that the problem has been solved and then under some pressure he declares his displeasure with the stand taken by the militants. It becomes the moral duty of India to find some practical solution of this problem. The most important thing is that during the last discussion on Tamil problem in the House we had estimated the number of Tamil refugees to be 80,000 but now this number has increased to about 2 lakhs. This number of Tamilians continues to increase. Our country herself is a poor nation and for how long can we sustain such a large number of refugees. Some solution has got to be found.

Now the problem is not so simple as it seems. The American base in Sri Lanka has almost been established. Sri Lanka has granted permission for the setting up of the Voice of America. It will not be surprising if in near future some American base is established there. A nexus has been established between Sri Lanka, America and Pakistan. This nexus is going to trouble us sooner or later. The problem is not so simple as we consider it. So, we

[Dr. G. S. Rajhans]

shall welcome Shri Jayewardene in our country but shall tell him firmly that we are not going to tolerate the continuance of the present situation. The whole country supports the people of Sri Lanka and the atrocities on the Tamils will not be tolerated.

SHRI ABDUL RASHID KABULI (Srinagar) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to say this much about the Tamils of Sri Lanka that this issue has for long been worrying us. I think that inside this House as well as outside, our public, the intellectuals and politicians have evinced great interest in this issue. This issue is so important that the sooner it is resolved the better it will be.

The first thing is that the Tamils of Sri Lanka have cultural and emotional ties with the Indians and that cannot be overlooked. We have centuries old relations with them. Our cultural links with them have not been snapped and will never be served. So, the people of India are pained when atrocities are committed on the Tamils in Sri Lanka and they have been meted out injustice.

I think the freedom-loving people should be ashamed of the treatment being meted out to the 3 million Tamils in Sri Lanka. I think it is the people in South Africa, Palestine and Tamils in Sri Lanka who are being subjected to atrocities and whose houses have been destroyed. It is not a small problem. It is quite a big problem. It is a question of the very survival of the Tamils. The Government of India should try to solve this problem not only through negotiations but every possible action should be taken to achieve the objective and to get justice for the Tamils. I take this opportunity to declare in the House that our National Conference wants justice with the Tamils of Sri Lanka; we have reiterated it outside the House also. I think the Government of Sri Lanka has totally failed in achieving this goal. That Government is bent upon inflicting cruelty on the Tamils. The Sri Lanka Government wants to liquidate three million Tamils on the island, though they are continuously saying that they want to resolve this problem through dialogue with India. I

think the Tamils have never created any impediment in it. They have never demanded a separate State. They are an integral part of that country. We never want that Sri Lanka should be partitioned but the Tamils are being deprived of their rights and privileges. We are aware that in the pre-independence days, in Sri Lanka, Tamil community was highly educated and progressive in every respect but the Sinhalese were jealous of them and since then there have been continuous efforts to crush them and liquidate them. I feel that Tamils have been forced to take up arms because there was no other way to survive the genocide. To save their identity, their life and their independence they were forced into militancy. This has been thrust on them.

I was invited to an International Conference of Tamilians in New York. I noticed in the two day conference that they never spoke of disintegrating Sri Lanka. Even if the Sri Lankan Government disregards world opinion and India's intervention and puts an end to all negotiations, will the Tamilians there allow genocide? Even the Government of India will not like that 30 lakh Tamilians are liquidated, their properly razed to the ground and their identity crushed. Our Government has raised its voice for the South African cause and it stands committed in this House that it will give all possible assistance to those who are fighting against the racist regime. Our Government is also committed to help the Palestinians in their war of independence against the Israelis. I think that in the Sri Lankan issue, our responsibility is much more, because after all it is the people of Indian origin who have settled there and their language, culture and outlook is the same as ours. So, when they are hurt it is the people of Tamil Nadu in India whose feelings hurt. I would like to tell the hon. Minister that the Sri Lankan problem does not concern Tamil Nadu alone; it is a matter of grave concern for the entire nation. The feelings of the people on this issue, irrespective of the area to which they belong, whether it is Andhra Pradesh, U.P., Bihar, Kashmir, Punjab or Madhya Pradesh is the same everywhere. Therefore, we want that this problem should be resolved at the earliest. As this is a matter of human rights and independence of a community which is

an integral part of our country, we should not be cowed down by any pressure tactics. Atrocities are being committed on Sri Lankan Tamils, but they will not have to bear them for long as our Government fully agrees with their views and is fighting for their cause at different world forums including the United Nations. I am sorry about the action taken by the Tamil Nadu Government in the state. The State Government is within its right to take whatever action it deems fit but the impression thus created boosted the morale of the Sinhalese Government. They were under the impression that military training was being imparted in India and now they will suppress and crush the Tamil militants with vengeance. I feel that things have to be dealt with great care in the south because the way the militant leaders were arrested and the way it was given wide publicity has tarnished the image of India. This has proved detrimental to the cause of the Tamils in Sri Lanka. I would like to submit, through you, Sir, that this is not only the cause of the Tamils but also of the whole of India and we should help in all possible ways to resolve this problem. We have noticed that the Sri Lankan Government has merely indulged in negotiations earlier but now they are committing atrocities and genocide and not making any practical efforts to find a political solution. Tamil women are being raped, their innocent children are being murdered, their houses are being burnt down and there is mass killing and genocide of the Tamil Community. How long will the Indian Government and Indian people remain a mute spectator to this sordid affair? Hon. Minister, Sir, this matter will not be solved in this manner. You will have to find a way out, lest it should be written in the annals of history that India betrayed the innocent Tamils of Sri Lanka who were looking up to us and our progeny may curse us for ever.

Sri Lanka has been emphasizing time and again for a military solution to the problem. I would like to know what this military solution means. Is it not a fact that they are insisting that the military action taken by them is bearing fruit? What they have done is destruction of property and genocide of the Tamils and India has done practically nothing. We have done a lot on

the national as well as international level in this regard but Sri Lanka has turned a deaf ear to it and its Government has not budged an inch. I would like that our Government should categorically tell us as to what should be done and give us some concrete suggestions. Every Indian will cooperate with you whole-heartedly, but the Government should make it a point to save the life and honour of Sri Lankan Tamils and restore peace and tranquility in the region. With these words, I conclude.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, I have listened with great respect and attention to the hon. Members who have participated in this debate. On the whole, the debate has been constructive. It is an important, though delicate subject which is also very emotive, and, therefore, in my response I shall be as restrained as I possibly can and before I reply to the points made by hon. Members I would, Sir, with your permission make a brief statement so as to bring the House up to date about the status of the proposals that the Sri Lankan Government made recently.

It will be recalled that as a result of the efforts made by the Government the Sri Lankan Government came out in June 1986 with a package of proposals which we felt deserve the careful consideration of the Sri Lanka Tamils as a basis for negotiations towards the political solution of the ethnic crisis in Ceylon. The proposals received from the Government of Sri Lanka were transmitted to the Sri Lankan Tamil groups at the end of June, 1986.

On the basis of this package of proposals, the Tamil United Liberation Front agreed to reopen direct discussions with the Sri Lankan authorities. The TULF and the Sri Lanka Government held two rounds of discussions in July 1986 and August 1986 respectively. Based on these discussions the Sri Lankan Government sent new formulations and proposals. These proposals and formulations deal with the amendment to the Sri Lankan Constitution to provide for the creation of provincial councils and devolution of powers to them; allocation of subjects

[Shri K. Natwar Singh]

between the provinces and the Central authorities and details of devolution in respect of law and order and land settlement.

The proposals and formulations discussed between the Sri Lanka Government and the TULF were further discussed by the TULF in meetings with legal experts and officials of the Government of India. On the basis of these discussions the TULF leaders have revised the draft formulations and the revised package has been conveyed to the other Tamil groups with a view to continuing the discussions towards finding a political solution. The process is continuing and Government is making every endeavour to ensure that the momentum of progress gained over the last few months is not dissipated.

Government are of the view that only a negotiated political settlement can resolve the ethnic crisis in Sri Lanka in a manner which would ensure that the Sri Lankan Tamils obtain their legitimate rights within the framework of the unity and integrity of this neighbouring country. It is hoped that the process will indeed lead to a lasting settlement which would restore peace and normalcy to Sri Lanka and thus end the sufferings of the Tamil people in the northern and eastern provinces of that country.

The debate was launched by the hon. Member, Shri Bhattam Sriramamurthy and he, while speaking, used rather strong and harsh language with regard to the prevailing ethnic problem in Sri Lanka. Government share his anxiety. We are also aware of the extraordinary callous and brutal manner in which the Tamils have been dealt with by the Government of Sri Lanka.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajapur) : If you share his views, then why do you call it strong and harsh ?

SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH : I have great respect for Prof, Madhu Dandavate's capacity for coining memorable phrases, but I am afraid, I do not have that high talent for irrelevant digression.

The hon. Member said that the militants had to be made a party to the negotiations.

They have been a party to the negotiations. We are in touch with them, as I said in my statement.

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU : With all the members ?

SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH : We are in touch with all the members. You ought to know this. (*Interruptions*)

Here I would like to just mention the helpful role played by the Government of Tamil Nadu. Several hon. Members spoke about the detention of some of the Tamil militants in Madras. My colleague, the Minister of State for Home Affairs, was with me. He had to go to the Vice-President. So, he is not here. But he has given me this information. No arrests were made; no cases were registered. They were taken for questioning and then were released. Leaders of the groups have been advised to be available for consultations in Madras. However, there are some members under detention in connection with the Diwali night firing and murder. This action of the Tamil Nadu Government became necessary because of the law and order problem and lot of heavy arms were discovered while these people were questioned last.

The distinguished opener of the debate also said that he did not expect very much to come out of the meeting between the Prime Minister and Mr. Jayewardene that is to take place in Bangalore on the 15th—possibly on 16th and 17th also they could meet. I would, with all respect, say that neither he nor I are prophets and it would be wrong on our part to prejudge the outcome of the discussions between the President of Sri Lanka and the Prime Minister of India. Prime Minister of India is fully aware of the situation in Sri Lanka. He is kept informed not only day to day but from hour to hour. It is his hope and desire and his endeavour that we find a peaceful, lasting, political solution to this very intractable and complex problem which is of concern to us as a neighbouring country to Sri Lanka. He also asked what we had done with regard to the number of people who were still in prison. In Sri Lanka, the numbers, according to me, ranges between 3,800 to 4,000 under the prevention of Terrorism Act of 1979 and about 150

were released in the autumn of 1985. We shall continue pressing for their release through our Mission in Colombo. So, I wanted to assure Shri Srirama Murty that the situation in Sri Lanka is very much before Government. Their matters could be raised before the Human Rights Commission. They have been raised. We have also seen the Amnesty International's Report. We are aware of the help from outside countries that is being given to Sri Lanka and we have drawn the attention to it. We are watching the situation very carefully because we do not want this area to become cockpit for outside agencies interfering in our area and putting on Sri Lanka the kind of influence which we consider undesirable.

I heard with great respect what Shri S.L. Yadav has said. He made a very helpful speech giving the background of the whole tragic situation that evolved itself in Sri Lanka in the past few years and to the plight of the Tamilians. He also pointed out that in the meeting that is to take place between the two leaders India and Sri Lanka, these questions would be discussed in depth and at length and some solution would be presenting itself to us. We sincerely hope that it will not be a too distant future.

Similarly, I welcome the intervention of Shri Suresh Kurup. He has also expressed his views with regard to the involvement of certain outside powers to which I have already made a reference that this is very much under the purview of the Government. He asked why the Government of India had not been more outspoken against the Government of United States. I precisely do not know what is meant by more outspoken, but the fact is that we have drawn the attention at the diplomatic level, at high level of the United States to the dangers their involvement would entail.

Also, Sir, very constructive contribution was made by Shri Sharad Dighe about the very delicate situation that we are facing in Sri Lanka. He also referred to the divisions among the militants. This is a matter which the militants have to work out themselves. It is very difficult for us except in broad lines to place before them the proposals that Sri Lankan Government had

to which I have referred in my statement. We can refer them to these and it is for them to decide. We would hope that they would be unanimous in their approach. If they are not unanimous it will only complicate the issue.

I heard naturally with special attention the intervention of my colleague Shri Shahabuddin. Had he made a right political choice he would have been sitting where I am. (*Interruptions*). He said "too many cooks spoil the broth".

As a distinguished leader of the AIDMK in Lok Sabha, Shri Kolandaivelu said, "Ministers come and go but the policy remains." The policy of the Government of India with regard to Sri Lanka, has followed a consistent path and I might add for the information of the House through you, say at one stage...

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN : Recipe remains the same but with every cook we get a different taste.

SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH : At one stage Shri Shahabuddin was the... (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY : Instead of 'Pulao' (delicacy) it will become 'Khichri' (mess).

SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH : Sir, wait a minute 'Pulao' is going to be served.

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY : Let the 'Pulao' be cooked first.

SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH : Yes, it is being cooked.

[*English*]

Shri Shahabuddin was incharge of the Sri Lanka desk in the Ministry of External Affairs when he was still with the foreign service. So, he is very much familiar with the Sri Lankan situation and that is why he was able to appreciate the dilemma of the Government of India just as I am able to appreciate this dilemma.

[Translation]

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY : We have already sensed its flavour.

[English]

SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH : Thank heaven for small mercies.

[Translation]

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : It is no small mercy if he picks up the scent.

[English]

SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH : Shri Shahabuddin said in a country which is multi-lingual, multi-racial, multi-religious, one has to carry the people as one and you could not lay down hard and fast rules—that either you accept or break. That is not possible. This is what we have been trying to as gentle and diplomatic and as often as we can convey it to the Government of Sri Lanka that they have to carry the Tamil population with them. They are entitled to the same rights as other people and discrimination against them is totally unacceptable. As Shri Shahabuddin said in 1986—these anti diluvian ideas can only lead to avoidable tragedy. He also was good enough to mention that India's good offices had been useful and valuable and I am grateful to him. Like him we do not want military solution to a political solution.

He also mentioned—call for cease fire. We have on a number of occasions made a call for cease fire—once in June 1985, and then again in January 1986. But both times the cease fire appeals failed because the monitoring agencies of the Sri Lanka Government were not all that one would desire them to be. On that at least I would not say anything more.

We had interventions from Shri Jeevarathinam and Prof. Kurien.

Now the Leader of the Tamilnadu Party in Parliament Shri Kolandaivelu, I naturally heard what he said, with very great respect because the Government of Tamilnadu has a special role to play and they have also to deal with your political opponents in your

State who naturally want to embarrass your Government there. But we are not looking at it in a narrow manner, we are looking at it from the point of view of finding a solution to the problem and, as I said earlier, we appreciate the role that your Chief Minister in spite of his ill-health has played in this particular matter because the great burden of 120,000 or more refugees who came to India over the past two or three years falls on the Tamil Nadu Government not only in term of socio-economic problem, but also in terms of law and order.

We also had the interventions of Mr. Naresh Chaturvedi and Mr. Narayan Choubey. Here again I would like to assure the hon. Member Shri Choubey that we are fully aware of the situation in and around Sri Lanka in the context in which he mentioned it.

Then, Mr. Kumaramangalam spoke at length and with some passion about the Sri Lanka problem. I entirely agree with him that it is not an internal problem and it has not been treated as such. He also made some references to the President of Sri Lanka who if I may, is somebody 25 years older than him, so that it would be desirable to make more polite references to a Head of the State.

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM : Advice taken.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Unless Kumaramangalam is polite !

SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH : We also heard from Mr. Ramoowalia and Dr. Raj Hans, and finally Mr. Kabuli, who all drew the attention of the House to the serious situation in Sri Lanka and emphasised that justice and fair play should be the lot of the people of the Sri Lankan Tamils. This is the view which the Government entirely shares and we have through our High Commission and through our Foreign Office here, at the Ministerial level and now Heads of the Government level—our Prime Minister met Mr. Jayawardene a number of times for these things. Our Prime Minister met the Prime Minister of Sri Lanka at Harare. So, this particular question is kept in front of the Government at the highest

level. I can only assure the House that whatever the hon. Members have said, we have taken note of it with all the earnestness and seriousness that it deserves and if at any other time when the occasion arises we would like to bring some facts before the House, we will do so, but at the moment I would say that it would be desirable and advisable and wise to await the outcome of the very important talks that are going to take place in Bangalore next week.

17.43 hrs.

DELHI FIRE PREVENTION AND FIRE SAFETY BILL, 1986

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : We shall now take up item No. 11 on the Agenda—Delhi Fire Prevention and Fire Safety Bill.

The Minister may now move the Bill for consideration.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI) : Sir, I beg to move :

“That the Bill to make more effective provision for the fire prevention and fire safety measures in certain buildings and premises in the Union Territory of Delhi, be taken into consideration.”

Sir, the fire in Gopala Towers, Rajendra Place, during June, 1983, greatly agitated the minds of the general public in Delhi and also our hon. Members.

Sir, this tragedy highlighted the inadequacy of fire safety and fire prevention arrangements in multi-storey buildings in the Union Territory of Delhi.

The building bye-laws were enacted and enforced from 23rd June 1983. Thereafter, it became necessary to obtain a No Objection Certificate from the Chief Fire Officer as well as to comply with the specific recommendations for installing

adequate fire safety precautions and means of escape. No Completion Certificate for any building could be issued without the no-objection certificate from the Chief Fire Officer.

SHRI PIYUS TIRAKY (Alipurduara) : On the first day itself, you are playing with fire !

SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI : Sir, regarding the completion certificate, this was not so in respect of building constructed before the enactment of those building bye laws, i.e. before June, 1983. Therefore, the position was reviewed in regard to equipping high rise buildings in Delhi with necessary fire-fighting equipments. It has been found after the review that out of the 220 high rise buildings, 194 continue to be deficient in respect of fire prevention and safety precautions. Therefore, inspections were carried out and major defects were pointed out by the Chief Fire Officer to the local bodies who sanction these plans. The owners were requested by the local bodies to remove deficiencies which were found and pointed out after the inspections by the Chief Fire Officer. But the local bodies reported that the owners and the builders did not respond to the request and had not attended to deficiencies. All these things were therefore taken into consideration.

It was felt that the problem cannot be tackled unless some stringent provisions exist for enforcement of fire safety measures so far as the Union Territory of Delhi is concerned.

Therefore, Sir, it has been found that the existing provisions in the Delhi Municipal Corporation Act, 1957 to enforce the fire safety measures, particularly in multi-storeyed buildings are most inadequate as they provide for imposition of maximum penalty of only Rs. 500 for the infringement of bye-laws and in case of continuing infringement, for an additional fine of Rs. 20 only per day. Therefore, it was felt that this Act should be amended and therefore this Bill has been brought forward before the House.

Sir, in the Statement of Objects and Reasons of the Bill, we have laid down

[Shri Chintamani Panigrahi]

what are the main salient features of the Bill. Some friends have pointed out as to whether there should be any appeal. We have provided for appeal also. Two stages of appeal against the orders of the nominated authority have been provided in this Bill. The first appeal will lie to the Appellate Tribunal constituted under section 347A of the D.M.C. Act, 1957. The second appeal against orders of the Appellate Tribunal will lie to the Administrator who can also *suo motu* call for records of any case and pass such orders as may be necessary.

Sir, I may inform the hon. House why we have made this Bill so stringent. The main features are the scope and definition of the word "buildings" has been enlarged to include any structure whether of masonry, bricks, wood, mud, metal or other materials. The second feature is, cinemas, hotels, restaurants, nursing homes and other industrial and commercial establishments employing over 50 people are now included in this definition of "buildings" as recommended by the Metropolitan Council. The third thing is, the definition of the word "premises" has been enlarged to include garden, ground and outhouse as well of temporary structures, as suggested by the Metropolitan Council. We have again also made provisions that improvised tents, and shamianas also now come within the purview of this Bill.

Various punishments, which we are providing in this Bill are: it contains provisions for imposition of penalty of imprisonment up to six months and a fine of Rs. 50,000 or both in case of non-compliance. Where the offence is a continuing one, a further fine of Rs 3 000 per day will be levied, which was only Rs. 20 in the existing Act, until necessary measures, as recommended by the Chief Fire Officer are adopted to render the buildings and premises safe from fire. We have also, as I pointed out, made provisions for people that if anybody feels that they are being harassed, they can go in for appeal to the Tribunal.

The objective of the intended legisla-

stern action against defaulters, is also to constitute a unified Authority in Delhi under the aegis of the Lieutenant Governor to oversee fire prevention and fire safety means and measures related to them. This will go a great way in satisfying the demand of the hon. Members and also of the general public in Delhi whose minds were greatly agitated when tragic event at Gopal Towers took place.

This Bill is completely non-controversial and I hope that the hon. Members will help in getting this Bill passed without any amendments.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Motion moved :

"That the Bill to make more effective, provisions for the fire prevention, and fire safety measures in certain buildings and premises in the Union Territory of Delhi, be taken into consideration."

[Translation]

*SHRI C. SAMBU (Bapatla) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, on behalf of Telugu Desam Party I rise to support the Delhi Fire Prevention and Fire Safety Bill, 1986. Sir, I welcome the introduction of this Bill which is quite non-controversial but it is unfortunate that the Government thought of introducing this Bill after a considerable delay. A Bill of this nature should have been brought before the House long ago.

It appears that the policy of this Government is to commit mistakes, suffer damages and then repent later. Many fire accidents have taken place in recent days not only in Delhi but also in several other parts of the country. It is most unfortunate that not only our nationals but also foreign nationals have lost their lives. There was a fire accident at Hotel Siddharta in which many foreign nationals had lost their lives, thus bringing a bad name to the country before the international community. Recently there was a fire accident in Chandhi Chowk area which has resulted in loss of life and property. So Sir, though this Bill has been introduced quite late nevertheless,

This Bill is applicable only to the Union territory of Delhi. A good measure as this, should be made applicable to the whole country. Not only in Delhi, but also in other metropolitan cities like Bombay, Calcutta, Madras and Hyderabad the fire accidents are taking place too frequently. Many multi-storied buildings are coming up in these cities to accommodate the ever increasing demand of the population. The coming up of sky scrapers is a phenomenon witnessed during the recent years in all the major cities in the country. This calls for a greater vigilance against fire mishaps. Our cities are expanding rather vertically than horizontally. We should keep this fact in mind before taking measures to prevent fire accidents,

Sir, our fire fighting machinery is woefully obsolete. We do not have modern equipment. We are constructing 50 or 60 storeyed buildings and our fire fighting equipment is not adequate enough to put out the fire particularly when the fire breaks out in the 10th or 15th floor. Hence the fire fighting force must be geared up to meet the challenges of multi-storeyed buildings. The force has to be modernised. We must be in a position to put out the fire even if it breaks out in the topmost floor. We should procure modern machinery and equipment to make our fire fighting force more effective. Another major drawback is that we are not imparting adequate training to the personnel. The training which is now being imparted is only for name sake. It is not effective. The training given to fire fighting force should be effective. Only well-trained staff can meet the situation effectively. Our fire men can successfully rescue the people even from the top most floor of a sky scraper when they get proper, effective, modern training. They should be taught how to handle modern equipment used for fighting the fire. Thus we can minimise the loss fire accidents to a minimum.

Sir, just now the hon. Minister said that the owners of multi-storeyed complexes who contravene the provisions of this Bill will be subjected to a fine of Rs. 50,000 or 6 months imprisonment. The owners of these multi-storeyed complexes, five-star

crores of rupees in the construction of such buildings. A penalty of Rs. 50,000 is nothing but pea-nuts to them. Their turn out runs into crores annually. The imprisonment of 6 months is a remote possibility. This punishment is not sufficient enough to work as a deterrent. Hence it should be raised considerably. Only then they will be cautious of fire accidents and would take interest in fire prevention measures. It is only the common people who suffer most during the fire accidents in multi-storeyed complexes. There is a fire insurance scheme. The beneficiaries of this scheme are owners of these multi-storeyed buildings and 5-star hotel complexes. They get every paisa back in the event of any fire accident. They are getting their claims through the insurance companies. But the unfortunate people who work in those places or the persons who occupy hotel rooms which suffer from any damage due to fire accident do not get any help either from Government or from the employers or the insurance company. Nothing has been said about providing compensation to be paid to the victims of fire accidents due to the negligence of building owners. It is the responsibility of the Government to protect the interests of innocent victims. The loss of life and property should be fully compensated. Hence I plead for introducing some insurance or scheme for the benefit of these innocent people who suffer due to fire accidents. In some cases a paltry Rs. 5,000 or Rs. 10,000 is being paid to the victims in a most casual manner. In multi-storeyed complexes, there will be many petty venders and other persons doing small jobs. Their survival will be affected to a considerable extent in the event of a fire accident. Hence they should also be paid adequately. It is also the responsibility of the Government to react sympathetically.

Sir, many fire accidents take in multi-storeyed buildings due to short circuit of electricity. So the supply of electricity should be taken care of and made safe by ensuring that proper precaution is taken. Care should be taken to avert short circuits in the electric current supply. This will reduce the fire accidents to a considerable extent.

[Shri C. Sambu]

be operative only in Delhi. As I mentioned earlier, fire accidents are taking place everywhere. Hence there should be a uniform policy and method applicable to all other cities. The Central Government should issue necessary guidelines to the State Governments in this regard. In fact, I feel, that it would have been more appropriate and useful had it been the "Indian Fire Prevention and Fire Safety Bill 1986" rather than "The Delhi Fire Prevention and Fire Safety Bill". The entire country is ours. Damage is damage wherever it may take place. Hence legislations like this should be uniformly applicable to all parts of India. Every Indian deserves to be protected and the Central Government should provide such protection.

The population in the country is increasing rapidly. The growing population is resulting in the increased construction of multi-storeyed buildings. Many of our country men are middle or lower middle class people who usually acquire a flat in the multi-storeyed residential complexes. Hence permission should be given for the construction of multi-storeyed flats only after a careful thought and we must ensure that fire prevention and safety measures are well taken care of. Hence the Government should give necessary instructions to the concerned departments to permit only such construction which take necessary measures to prevent fire accidents.

Sir, we do not have many fire stations in our rural areas. There is no fire fighting machinery in our villages. Leave alone villages, even small towns with a population of more than 2 lakhs do not have fire stations. Even in those places where there are fire stations, there is only one fire engine. It is too inadequate. Fire accidents take place frequently. The fire

fighting force is not in a position to cope up with the demand. The State Governments are not in a position to provide sufficient funds for the expansion of fire fighting force. Hence the Central Government should extend financial help to the State Governments so as to enable them to establish fire stations in rural areas also. Thus we can prevent loss of life and property throughout the country. I hope the hon. Minister would consider this request sympathetically.

Sir, I conclude my speech thanking you for giving me the opportunity to initiate the debate on this important Bill.

18.00 hrs.

BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

[English]

Twenty-ninth Report

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SHEILA DIKSHIT): Sir, I beg to present the Twenty-ninth Report of the Business Advisory Committee.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The House stands adjourned to reassemble tomorrow at 11.00 a.m.

18.01 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Wednesday, November 12, 1986/Kartika 21, 1908 (Saka)